

THE ATHENÆUM

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No. 3393.

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 5, 1892.

PRICE
THREEPENCE
REGISTERED AS A NEWSPAPER

CLAN CAMERON.—The "MARY MACKELLAR" MEMORIAL.—On the suggestion of friends and admirers of the late Mrs. MARY MACKELLAR, *nee* CAMERON, poetess and Gaelic writer, the Council of Clan Cameron invite SUBSCRIPTIONS from Members of the Clan and the Highland Public generally for the purpose of erecting a suitable Monument in Kilmalie Churchyard, Corpach, near Fort William, and of forming a Bursary Fund to commemorate the deceased.
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COLIN CAMERON, Esq., Hongkong and Shanghai Bank, 31, Lombard-street, London, E.C.
Sir CHARLES A. CAMERON, 41, Pembroke-road, Dublin.

ROYAL ACADEMY OF ARTS.—NOTICE is HEREBY GIVEN, that the President and Council will proceed to SELECT, on TUESDAY, November 22nd, a TURNER ANNUITY. Applicants for the Turner Annuity, which is of the value of 50*l.*, must be artists of repute, in need of aid through the unavoidable failure of professional employment or other causes.—Forms of application can be obtained by letter, addressed to the SECRETARY, Royal Academy of Arts, Piccadilly, W. They must be filled in and returned on or before Saturday, November 19th.

PRINTERS' PENSION CORPORATION.—A LECTURE will be delivered ON WILLIAM CANTON and the PRINTING PRESS, by Mr. J. S. HODSON, F.R.S., Secretary of the Corporation, in ST. JUDEN'S INSTITUTE, Albert-street, Queen's Park, Harrow-road, on WEDNESDAY EVENING, November 9, at 8.30. Tickets, 1*s.*, Gallery, 6*d.*
Right Hon. Sir C. W. DILKE, Bart., M.P., has kindly consented to preside.
Gray's Inn Chambers, 20, High Holborn.

BURNETT LITERARY TRUST.

The Reverend WILLIAM L. DAVIDSON, LL.D., Minister of the Parish of Bourlie, Aberdeenshire, the Lecturer recently appointed by the Burnett Trustees, will deliver his first Course, consisting of SIX LECTURES, in connection with "Villanovian address letters, and in the Hall of Marischal College there, on the Afternoons of the 7th, 14th, 21st, 28th, 10th, and 17th days of NOVEMBER NEXT.

Subject of the Lectures:
"Theism as grounded in Human Nature Historically and Critically Handled."
ALEX. WEBSTER,
Secretary of the Burnett Trustees.
Aberdeen, October, 1892.

UNIVERSITY COLLEGE, LONDON.—Professor ALTHAM will deliver FIVE LECTURES on GERMAN LITERATURE on THURSDAY EVENINGS, at 8.30. The subjects treated in these Lectures are—1. 'Weimar and Jena at the End of the Eighteenth and the Beginning of the Nineteenth Centuries.' 2. 'The Romantic School.' 3. 'Young Germany.' 4. 'The Austrian Poets.' 5. 'Count Molke as an Author.' The Lectures, which will begin on THURSDAY, the 10th inst., will be delivered in German, and are open to the public without payment of tickets.
J. M. HORSBURGH, M.A., Secretary.

A COURSE OF SIX LECTURES upon ITALIAN PAINTERS (Leonardo da Vinci, Raphael, Michelangelo, Titian) will be given in NOVEMBER and DECEMBER by Miss ELLEN FARWELL, in the West-End.—For Villanovian address letters to Miss E. FARWELL, Ashridge House, Windsor-terrace, Hampstead.

MISS C. M. ASHFORD (First Class in Ancient and Phil. Part II. of Class Trip. Camb.) will give SIX LECTURES on the 'TRIAL and DEATH OF SOCRATES' at 14, CHURCH-STREET CHAMBERS, W.C., on THURSDAYS, at 3 p.m., beginning November 10th. Fee for the Course, 7*s.* 6*d.*

THE LECTURE AGENCY, Limited, of the Outer Temple, W.C., acts as AGENTS for all the leading Lecturers and Entertainers of the day. Secretaries of Institutes, Societies, Lecture Associations, Y.M.C.A.s, Principals of Schools, Clergymen, &c., should write for Prospects.

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In consequence of numerous complaints from subscribers to former productions of the Society who have, through change of address or otherwise, missed the opportunity of subscribing for the later issues, a limited number of copies of the New Edition of the POEMS of FRANÇOIS VILLON, now in the press, have been reserved for their convenience; but application to secure same now be made at once to the Hon. Sec., Mr. ALFRED FOLMAN, 49, Cornhill-road, West Kensington, W.

SPECIAL SELECT TOUR.

PALESTINE and EGYPT.—The Rev. HASKETT SMITH, M.A., the well-known Eastern traveller, and the Author of Murray's 'Handbook to Syria and Palestine,' will accompany a SELECT PARTY to EGYPT and PALESTINE NEXT SPRING, under the arrangements of THOS. COOK & SON, leaving London February 9, 1893.
Programme and full particulars may be obtained from the Rev. HASKETT SMITH, 172, Earl's Court-road, S.W., or from THOS. COOK & SON, Leadenhall-street, and Branch Offices.

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Goldsmith, York, 24th October, 1892.

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INFORMATION respecting WORKS by Mr. RUSKIN and others, published by Mr. ALLEN, of Orpington and Bell-yard, Temple Bar, will be found on p. 612 of this paper.

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The HALF-TERM will BEGIN on MONDAY, November 14. In addition to the usual Courses, Lectures will be given on Greek Archaeology, Tennyson's 'In Memoriam,' and Elucidation.

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AFTERNOON LECTURES OPEN TO LADIES AND GENTLEMEN. A Course of FOUR POPULAR LECTURES on 'The Tourist in Greece; or, from Hampstead Heath to Hymettus,' illustrated by Lime-light Views, will be given by TALFOURD ELLY, M.A., beginning on MONDAY, November 14, at 4.30. Fee for the Course, 1*s.*; any single Lecture, 2*s.*

THREE SPECIAL LECTURES, free to Ladies and Gentlemen on presentation of visiting card, will be given on WEDNESDAY AFTERNOONS in NOVEMBER, at 4.30.
Nov. 16.—'John Amos Comenius,' by FOSTER WATSON, M.A.
Nov. 23.—'Some Lessons from the History of Geometry,' by PERCY J. HARDING, M.A.
Nov. 30.—'The Value of the History of Education,' by H. COURT-HOPE BOWEN, M.A.
All inquiries to be made of
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LITERATURE

Recollections of George Butler. By Josephine E. Butler. (Bristol, Arrowsmith; London, Simpkin, Marshall & Co.)

THIS volume does not profess to be a complete memoir of George Butler, and it is quite as much autobiographical as biographical; but Mrs. Butler has told all that there was need to say in illustration of her husband's character and career, and her narrative is both interesting and instructive.

To readers not specially concerned in the agitation for kindlier and juster treatment of women, in which both husband and wife took a leading part, the first half of the book will be most welcome. It tells how the son of the famous Master of Harrow passed from boyhood to manhood in an almost ideal way, incurring blame for his lightheartedness and love of innocent sport until he made "a determined start in life" among college companions, of whom Mr. Froude was one of the most conspicuous, and developed into a broad-minded and energetic teacher and friend of educational progress. Here is a somewhat priggish love-letter:—

"In bad weather I work away at Plato in my lofty nest, whence I can look out to all points of the compass. Those 'heathen friends' of mine, of whom you speak, would have been very good Christians if they had had a chance, Plato especially, whose mind was of a more believing cast than Aristotle's. 'Il gran maestro di color chi sanno' is rather too dry and lawyer-like to please me. He is invaluable, however, as a teacher of practical wisdom. One feels the constraining force of his arguments, which are based on the commonsense of mankind. Although I do not recommend you now to take up Greek, I hope to make you acquainted some day with fragments of thought gleaned from those ancient fields which bore so rich a harvest. I have a great deal of sympathy with the old Greeks. Their literature is like their art—perfect in its kind. We have introduced elements which make our literature richer and more comprehensive, just as a Gothic cathedral is richer than a Greek temple; but we shall never surpass, probably never equal, them in form and symmetry. I admire the old Greeks for this, and also for their versatility, for the ease with which they turned their minds from the most trivial to the most important subjects. Nothing seemed too little or too great for them. I have been reading some grand passages at the end of Plato's 'Republic,' the original of Sir Thomas More's 'Utopia.' The doctrine of a

future state, and of rewards and chastisements being assigned to us in that state, according as our life on earth has been good or evil, is stated very clearly. It is marvellous that a doctrine on which, as Bishop Butler says, 'our hopes and fears are grounded,' should be found more fully stated in the writings of a heathen philosopher than in the Jewish Scriptures. I will make some extracts from the book when I come to Dilston. I think you will agree with me that such flowers never grew elsewhere under the cold moonlight; and that if the Sun of Righteousness had risen upon them, they would have blossomed abundantly, and been fit, so far as human reason can see, to be transplanted into Paradise."

Married to the daughter of "John Grey of Dilston" in 1852, when his age was thirty-two, Mr. Butler settled in Oxford for some years, and it is claimed for him that his lectures on geography, art, and other practical subjects started a revolution in university teaching:—

"There are men theoretically in advance of their times, who do good service by their advocacy of progressive principles in writing or in speech. With him it was more a matter of simple practice. He perceived that some study useful or necessary for the future generations and in itself worthy had scarcely an acknowledged place in the curriculum of the Schools and Universities, or that some new ground necessary to be explored was still left untrodden; and without saying much about it, without any thought of being himself a pioneer in any direction, he modestly set himself to the task of acting out his thoughts on the subject. His absolute freedom from personal vanity withheld him from proclaiming that he was about to enter on any new line, and at the same time enabled him to bear with perfect calm, if not with indifference, the criticisms, witty remarks, and sometimes serious opposition which are seldom wanting when a man or woman ventures quietly to encroach upon the established order of things in any department of life. At Oxford he was the first who brought into prominence the study of geography. His geographical lectures there were quite an innovation, creating some amusement and a good deal of wonder as to how he would succeed. It was a subject which had hitherto been relegated in an elementary form to schools for boys and girls, and was unrecognised, except by a very few persons as the grand and comprehensive scientific study which it is now acknowledged to be. At Oxford the subject was entirely new, at least to the older members of the University, who, however, to their credit, came to the lectures, and listened with teachable minds to truths novel to them concerning the world they were living in. We drew large illustrative maps for the walls of the lecture room. I recall a day when I was drawing in a rough form an enlarged map of Europe, including the northern coast of Africa and a part of Asia Minor. It happened that several fellows and tutors of colleges called at that moment. I continued my work while they chatted with him on the curiosity of his introduction in Oxford of so elementary a study. The conversation then turned on letters we had just received from Arthur Stanley and Theodore Wadsworth, who were visiting Egypt. 'Where is Cairo?' someone asked, turning to the map spread on the table. I put the question to an accomplished College tutor. His eye wandered hopelessly over the chart; he could not even place his hand on Egypt! I was fain to pretend that I needed to study my performance more closely, and bent down my head in order to conceal the irreverent laughter which overcame me."

Mrs. Butler's letters from Oxford, which are largely quoted, abound in amusing gossip about contemporaries who afterwards became eminent. Here is one passage:—

"Emily bids me to tell you that Goschen is, as you suppose, partly German. He is a genius in a moderate sort of way. He has thought a great deal on some subjects, and when these happen to be started in the Union he speaks well on them. He argues well and is fluent, but is sometimes carried away by his feelings, and becomes too warm to speak well. Charles Parker then comes in with his calm temper and good head, and sorts them all up. There have been interesting debates lately, Arthur tells me. Goldwin Smith and other 'dons' go to hear them. It must be interesting to see an embryo Parliament like that, and imagine in those boys the germs of future statesmen. No doubt they often talk nonsense, as their elders do. There is to be a debate on Gladstone to-night."

The "debate on Gladstone" is not reported; but we have this lively description of the late Dean Stanley:—

"Stanley came to our drawing-room in the evening, with Mr. Jowett and Prof. Wilson. He (Stanley) is a good and excellent man, not at all imposing looking, small, with pale blue eyes, which seem to be always looking at a distant horizon, and do not seem to see you even when they look at you, and an innocent mouth with an infantine expression of purity. He is cheerful, fond of society, and often quite merry; he has a quiet voice; he is most earnest and interesting when talking of anything he has at heart. What will my dear mother say when I tell her he hates music? I refrained from opening the piano. They say all his senses are imperfect—taste, smell, hearing. One would not think so from his writings. But he has imagination which makes up for the defect. He is absolutely indifferent to what food he eats, with one exception—he loves buttered tea-cake. I was told so in confidence by a friend of his. So I always provide a large stack of buttered tea-cake when he comes to tea. I do not offer it to him, but I stand guard over it to see that no one else eats it, and gradually he is attracted to it, and eats layer after layer of it to the end, while we are very careful not to notice the fact."

An anecdote about Alexander Munro, the sculptor, is also worth quoting:—

"Brought up among Scotch moors, and of humble but gifted parentage, he had much of the sweet character of a child combined with true artistic genius, great quickness of intellect, and a rare enthusiasm for all that was good and noble. The task was committed to him of designing for the Museum a number of statues, representing various scientific men of past times. Munro worked in our house, not infrequently on the clay models of portrait busts he was engaged with. He showed even then a tendency to the consumption which carried him off so early in life. He was warned by his doctor against his habit of working at night. He did not sufficiently regard the warning, and his delicate look made our hearts ache. We removed his lamp and all means of obtaining a light at night, in order to oblige him to retire to rest. One morning, however, after this severe measure had been enforced, he showed us at breakfast a lovely diminutive piece of sculpture, representing a little girl carrying a bundle of sticks, her dress blown by the wind, and a little dog at her feet; the whole carved out of a piece of slate-pencil. But how did he obtain a light? we asked. He answered meekly, but with a mischievous smile: 'I went out and bought a farthing dip, and when I found I couldn't sleep, I lit it, and made this thing. Will you have it?'"

Mr. Butler's useful life—first as Vice-Principal of Cheltenham College, then as Principal of Liverpool College, and afterwards as Canon of Winchester—was uneventful; but it was enlivened by many friendships, of which interesting records are here given,

and it was in harmony with the special work to which after 1869 he and Mrs. Butler devoted nearly all their energies. A tolerably comprehensive history of "our great crusade," as it is here called, is given in the second half of the volume. The narrative, however, is freely interspersed with extracts from letters and other notes describing incidents and experiences in the canon's frequent visits to Italy, France, and other countries. It was on his way back to Winchester, after one of these journeys, partly undertaken in search of health, that Canon Butler died in March, 1890; and it was from Winchester, where he was at the time sitting as judge, that Lord Coleridge thus wrote a few months afterwards:—

"I am constantly reminded of your husband by some turn of thought, some quaint story, some remark of delicate and refined observation put into pure and happy language; but, as I have often said, he was a man more remarkable in himself than anything he ever did or wrote: a man so perfect in character, so full and varied in accomplishments, in whom the absence of angularities makes it difficult to describe him in a way which would vividly impress others. He was an admirable scholar, but he seldom talked scholarship; a fine artist both in judgment and in execution, but he seldom discoursed on it; a very considerable linguist, which one found out almost by accident; full of fun, but never giving way to 'inconvenient' jesting; an athlete quite unboastful, a sportsman silent about his exploits. It is not easy to draw the character of such a man, who effaced himself all his life: who took a position below his merits without a jealous or repining thought, and saw men every way his inferiors pass him in the race of life without one word of satire or of depreciation." That tribute of friendship was just.

Reminiscences of Oxford by Oxford Men, 1559—1850. Selected and edited by Lilian M. Quiller Couch. (Oxford Historical Society.)

THE present volume stands by itself among the publications of the Oxford Historical Society. Hitherto all its issues, not excluding the most popular, have contained a certain amount of original unprinted matter. Even the volume on 'Elizabethan Oxford' was made up out of pamphlets so little known as practically to stand on a level with manuscript materials. But six pages of an unpublished letter in verse by Southey, and a batch of other verses printed from a Bodleian manuscript (oddly classified as "topographical"), will hardly substantiate a claim to originality on behalf of Miss Couch's book, the contents of which are simply reprinted from a number of well-known and easily accessible sources. All that is new is to be found in the biographical data and occasional explanations of allusions in the notes. Such a work does not, in our opinion, come up to the standard which ought to be maintained by the Oxford Historical Society; it is of general interest enough to have been accepted by an ordinary publisher without drawing upon the funds subscribed for serious historical publications; and even the selection itself offers room for criticism in a number of ways. In the first place several of the passages given are not, strictly speaking, "reminiscences" at all. The editor, it is true, apologizes for giving part of Evelyn's diary on the ground that "it was not posted from day to day, but often, indeed,

written up long after the events which it chronicles." But the official letters of the Chancellor of the University are documents of a quite different character from that implied by "reminiscences," and two certainly of Archbishop Laud's letters should on this ground have been excluded. Then, again, the 'Terre Filius' is a satire pure and simple. No doubt it contains a certain element of truth, but that is not the question: it is not the work of "an *alumnus* of Oxford who, looking back, has described, judged, and commented upon its collegiate life by the light of later years and a larger knowledge of the world," but of one who, having been expelled from his college, professes to portray the state of things in the University at the time of writing. This is the case also with the verses to which we have referred. It may have been worth while to reprint a great part of Hurd's 'Vindication of Magdalen College' against Gibbon, but it should not have been done in this volume. Reminiscences are of an occasional nature; they may come up in letters or books written in elder years or in an autobiography; but a set apology or a satire is something altogether alien from what is understood by the term. One of the "reminiscences" included in the book, though it falls strictly under the definition for which we contend, is totally unworthy of a place here. The late Dr. Henry Robinson's testimony (reprinted from *London Society*) may be of value as to the manners and customs of an academical Hall fifty years ago; but his inane gossip about the conspicuous Oxford men of his time is of no interest to anybody, and the article is written in an illiterate style which does scant credit to the humble (and now unfortunately defunct) institution of which he was a member. The editor is apparently conscious of the incongruity of the appearance of this amiable but obscure divine among her worthies, and has veiled his name under that of St. Alban Hall in the headings of the chapter and of the pages. The practice, however, in regard to headings is not altogether consistent, and Richard Graves and T. J. Hogg are eclipsed by the fame of the subjects of their reminiscences, Shensstone and Shelley. One rule, we think, should have been observed, and the chapters should have been named either after their author or their subject; not sometimes after the one, sometimes the other.

It is not to be expected that a volume of selections like the present should satisfy everybody, and we have little complaint to make of its omissions. It may, however, be suggested that some of the notices printed at the end of W. G. Ward's life, parts of Mark Pattison's memoirs, and a letter by Mr. Goldwin Smith on Magdalen College half a century ago (published some years back in the *Oxford Magazine*), might well have found a place in the book, for comparison, and sometimes contrast, with the passages here given on the same situations as seen by different eyes. But the collection which Miss Couch offers is sufficiently representative, and not only Oxford men will read with pleasure the various impressions which college life made on various narrators. Unquestionably the most interesting are the records of undergraduate years. We have the first Lord

Shaftesbury at Exeter College, with his full purse, very often

"forced to pay the neighbouring farmers, when they of our party that wanted money were taken in the fact, for more geese, turkeys, and poultry than either they had stole or he [sic] had lost, it being very fair dealing if he made the scholar when taken pay no more than he had lost since his last reimbursement";

and heading a mutiny against a design "to alter the beer of the college, which was stronger than other colleges." Richard Graves describes the society of Pembroke College in George II.'s time, and the three sets in it distinguished by their respective beverages, water, ale, and wine; the servitors, such as George Whitefield, were quite beyond or beneath his view, unless as objectionable excrescences. We note that the Earl of Malmesbury's friends at Merton at the beginning of George III.'s reign, like Charles James Fox at Hertford, drank claret; while George Colman the Younger, less than twenty years later, found port the prevailing liquor at Christ Church. When the French war began claret passed totally out of use; Dr. Dibdin says it "was utterly unknown at any table." Then, among the virtuous, *negus* makes its appearance; but the stages in the varying taste for particular wines are not well marked, and it is almost as a surprise (though the fact has not escaped the observation of the curious) that we find the undergraduates of thirty years ago sitting in the quadrangle in the evening and taking "their modest after-dinner sherry."

It is not commonly understood how usual it was in the old days for men to reside at the University the whole year round. The Long Vacation, no doubt, took its rise from the necessity of providing labourers for the harvest, and it continued to be generally observed long after the bulk of students had ceased to be drawn from the labouring classes; but there were still some who stayed at Oxford without intermission for two years or even more together. Stephen Penton's model tutor in the last quarter of the seventeenth century went so far as to lay down that no letter should be written to an undergraduate from home until a whole year had passed. But by degrees the increased facility of travelling made the short vacations as well as the Long a reality, and Hogg, eighty years ago, speaks as though the colleges were regularly emptied during them. A living witness, Lord Brabourne, tells us that when he asked leave to "come up" two or three weeks before the term began, in order to "coach" with one of the Fellows of Magdalen, the old President, Dr. Routh, refused him on the ground that it "was an innovation which could not be recognised or permitted." Yet the University sermons went on during vacation until a still later date, and even now are not altogether discontinued.

Notices of the teaching which undergraduates received at different periods are rarer than might have been expected. There are a good many complaints of the tutors' neglect of their duty, which would have lost much of their point had the writers taken the pains to inform themselves what the statutable duties of the tutor really were. Few things are more curious than the way

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in which the effective system of voluntary instruction in the Middle Ages broke down before the ascendancy of the colleges, which gained a monopoly, but were long unable to adapt themselves to its requirements. Only in the present century has the Oxford tutor become uniformly an officer of instruction, and already his sway is being rapidly undermined by the advance of (possibly premature) specialized study and the multiplication of "Combined Lecturers." But no one, we suppose, will take all the invective in Miss Couch's book quite seriously; and the famous accounts of Gibbon and Hogg in point of fact tell us much more about Gibbon and Shelley than about the Oxford life of their day, of which the narrators saw very little. Corpus Christi College, indeed, stands alone in the volume in its record of good tutors (in the popular sense of the word) alike under Charles II. and George III.; and the recollections of Sir John Taylor Coleridge of the years he spent, together with Arnold and Keble, at Corpus—undoubtedly the gem of the collection—cannot but rouse a passing regret for a state of things that has no counterpart in the crowded, competing colleges of modern Oxford. Frederick Oakeley, however, warns us that we are not to accept that idyllic picture as true of every college. We wish we had space to quote from the latter's highly interesting and entertaining reminiscences, which Miss Couch has done excellently in disinterring from a periodical publication. We can only repeat that her book illustrates fairly and fully the diverse aspects of University life at various times of the last three centuries. She has taken great pains with her notes, and left few persons unidentified or allusions unexplained.

Sketches from Eastern History. By Theodor Nöldeke, Professor of Oriental Languages at the University of Strassburg. Translated by John Sutherland Black, M.A., and revised by the Author. (Black.)

THE reader may experience a feeling of disappointment in closing Prof. Nöldeke's volume of historical studies. Much was to be expected from the leading Semitic scholar of Germany that is not to be found here. Surely Prof. Nöldeke owed it to his own great reputation, which rests upon no uncertain grounds, to fill a volume on Eastern history bearing his name with something more solid than a collection of disconnected magazine articles, or what might have been such. Three of his "Sketches" appeared in the *Deutsche Rundschau* or *Im neuen Reich*, one (on the Koran) is reprinted from the ninth edition of the 'Encyclopædia Britannica,' and the other five have all the appearance of having been written with a view to publication in some periodical, though they are now printed for the first time. They are, in short, the *parerga* of a specialist, intended mainly for the general public. Yet they hang together so loosely, and refer to matters so little familiar to the average reader, that it may be doubted whether they will reach their intended billet; while the Orientalist will find with regret that Prof. Nöldeke has provided little or nothing that he can fasten upon as new and stimulating in his own line of research. The book is too special for the

general and too popular for the specialist. This is the more to be regretted because the essays themselves prove conclusively, to those who might have been unaware of the fact, that Prof. Nöldeke is much more than a learned man—that he possesses historical grasp and insight, and is gifted with rare powers of graphic exposition. Some of the "Sketches" display a truly marvellous comprehension of all the conditions of the period under discussion, such as comes not only from a thorough mastery of the facts, but, if we may use the expression, from an historical digestion of them. Prof. Nöldeke sees his men and events in their proper perspective and relative importance, and is thus able to paint his picture without the distortion which is the defect of the specialist's drawing. It is a pity that he has not used his remarkable faculty upon a larger canvas.

Three of the essays have a sort of connexion. They treat of the 'Caliph Mansûr,' 'A Servile War' (of the Zenj or negro population of the marshes below Basrah, in the ninth century), and 'Yakûb the Copper-smith and his Dynasty,' known as the Saffârids. These three essays, as the preface informs us, may be regarded as supplementary chapters to August Müller's 'History of Islam.' They are fragments of the annals of the Abbâsid Khalifate, and treat of its foundation, an episode in its decay, and a factor in its destruction. The "Servile War," interesting as it becomes in the hands of a master, had, after all, little or no influence upon contemporary movements. The successes of Ya'kûb ibn Leyth and the other Saffârids form but one out of many steps in the gradual absorption of the Khalifs' empire by ambitious governors and invading Turks, and are scarcely intelligible to a reader who knows nothing of the power of the house of Tâhir, the domination of the Sâmânids, or the triumph of Mahmûd of Ghazni. Interesting as the chapter is, it will, we fear, be caviare to the general who know not their Weil or their Muir. The study of 'Caliph Mansûr,' on the other hand, may stand by itself, for it needs little more context than its author has provided. It is an admirable exposition of the means whereby the Abbâsids acquired and established their vast empire. The subject is as old as the hills, but it has never been treated with such breadth and comprehension. We are shown with perfect and convincing clearness how it was that the Omayyads were doomed to fall, why the Alide leaders always stopped just short of success, and how the domination of the Abbâsids differed from the policies of both the rival families. The first Khalif of the new house, Saffâh "the Butcher," is but slightly noticed, for he soon made way for the real founder of the Abbâsid empire, his brother Mansûr.

"Saffâh appears to have been a strong ruler who, had he lived longer, might perhaps have done for the empire what it was left for his follower to achieve. Great differences between the caliphate of the Abbâsids and that of the Omayyads immediately emerged, due in part to the manner in which it had been set up, and in part to the personal character of the rulers. The seat of empire was transferred to Babylonia, the true centre. The power of the sovereign rested primarily on Persian troops, which were more amenable to discipline than Arabian. The caliph no longer needed to take much account of the tribal differences of the Arabs,

though he occasionally utilized them for his own ends. Hence he could act much more automatically than his predecessors; the lands of the caliphate now formed much more of a political unity than before. In short, on the old soil of the great Asiatic empires, another was once more set up, which at the most was only half Arab in its character, the rest being Persian."

The foundation of Baghdâd, the "City of Peace" or security, was indeed the key-note of Mansûr's statesmanship. It transferred the casting vote from the Arabs to the Persians, with wide-reaching results in politics and civilization—which are not, however, indicated in the essay. From no other centre could the immense empire, which stretched from the Indus almost to the Pillars of Hercules, be effectively controlled; and even from his new capital Mansûr had hard work to keep the numerous reins of provincial government in his own hands. He was, however, a master of administrative detail:—

"The active superintendence which Mansûr gave to the building of his capital is only an instance of the whole system of his government, which was, as far as possible, personal. Posts were conferred on a certain number of Arab nobles, who still sometimes showed the insubordination and tribal patriotism of their race, but he took care that they never overgrew himself. At the same time, he conferred the most important governorships upon various members of his own family, and made ample provision for all of them; but he kept them in strict subjection, and on occasion chastised them severely. He had absolutely trustworthy tools in his freedmen and clients of foreign extraction, to whom, to the horror of the aristocratic Arabs, he sometimes gave even the most important administrative offices. The governors and other high officials of the provinces were strictly overseen by special officers, entirely independent of them, who sent an uninterrupted series of couriers with their reports to the Caliph..... These officers, in addition to their special duties, reported all the more important law-cases and all occurrences of any particular interest; they further apprised the Caliph of the price of provisions; for, with a view to peace and security, it was judged necessary to take prompt measures for the prevention of dearths. So well was Mansûr informed as to the state of the provinces, that it was whispered he had a magic mirror in which he could see all his enemies. Still better is he characterized by his own words to his son: 'Sleep not, for thy father has not slept since he came to the caliphate: when sleep fell upon his eyes, his spirit remained awake.' He was an excellent financier. He is frequently reproached with avarice even; he was surnamed 'the father of farthings'—a reproach which presumably came chiefly from those whose interests would have been served by that prodigality to favourites which has procured a very undeserved reputation for many Oriental sovereigns. He looked sharply after his tax collectors. Of course, he followed the old-established principle of Oriental princes, according to which high officers who had gorged themselves were compelled to give back their accumulations..... He left to his successor an overflowing exchequer. We are safe in saying that the rule of Mansûr, however hard, treacherous, or ruthless it may often have been, was, on the whole, a blessing to the empire. He could say of himself with truth that he had done for the mass of the people the one thing which the masses needed; he had insisted on righteousness (in the administrative and judicial acts of his officials), had protected them against external attack, and had secured internal peace and quiet. The fruits of his exertions were reaped by his successors, who were by no

means on a level with himself. The great prosperity of the empire under his grandson Hārūn ar Rashid is mainly due to Mansūr."

The Khalif set a good example to his followers in the virtues of private life. Born and bred in the deserts of Edom, he was frugal and simple in his habits. He drank no wine, allowed no music at court, and when he was engaged on matters of consequence he never looked on the face of a woman. He was fond of the society of poets and scholars, and was himself a man of eloquence and erudition, to whom is due the credit of ordering the first translations of Greek books into Arabic. Finally, he was a thorough man of the world, with "no nonsense about him" in matters of religion.

The other essays are of minor interest. That on King Theodore of Abyssinia seems curiously out of place. 'Bar-Hebræus' is valuable, but dull; and 'Syrian Saints' is a series of rather jerky notes. The translation has been creditably performed by Mr. Black, who has successfully overcome the inherent long-windedness of the German language, and has made his author not only extremely clear, but thoroughly pleasant to English readers.

The World's Great Explorers.—Christopher Columbus. By Clements R. Markham, C.B. (Philip & Son.)

Proceedings of the Royal Geographical Society, September, 1892.

The Career of Columbus. By Charles J. Elton, F.S.A. (Cassell & Co.)

In his sketch of the labours of his predecessors Mr. Markham writes:—

"Irving's 'Life of Columbus' will continue to be, as it has been in the past, the most popular and most widely read biography of the great Admiral for all English-speaking people."

Yet in a great measure Irving's work will most likely be superseded by Mr. Markham's volume, as it is not only attractively written, but it co-ordinates a mass of new material unknown to Irving.

We shall, however, confine our remarks mainly to a few questionable points in an interesting volume. In No. 3354 of this journal we remarked that "it is high time that the Zeno narrative should, along with the map, be eliminated from all genuine Americana." As both the narrative and the map are conspicuous by their absence not only from Mr. Markham's 'Columbus,' but also from Mr. Henry Harrisse's new monograph on 'The Discovery of North America,' we wonder if we may be allowed to regard these omissions as further "contributions towards eliminating confusing statements respecting the Zeno and Columbus."

In the 'Narrative and Critical History of America' Dr. Charles Deane described Sebastian Cabot as the "Sphinx of North American history for over three hundred years." As was afterwards pointed out in the 'Dictionary of National Biography,' "the main cause of the perplexity was that heretofore many of the recent biographers of Cabot failed of courage to admit that honours ascribed to the son really belonged to the father"—John Cabot. Mr. Markham with his usual circumspection disposes of the Sphinx after a similar fashion. He writes:—

"If Sebastian ignored the position and services of his father in making these statements [respecting his discoveries] and took credit to himself, his conduct forms a strong contrast to that of Fernando, the son of Columbus, whose filial piety is his best claim to remembrance."

We observe that Mr. Harrisse also takes up the same line and is exceedingly angry with Sebastian Cabot for his unfilial habit of ascribing to himself a credit which belonged to his father. We really see no good reason for this display of virtuous indignation, as we fear that after all the greatest sinners were Cabot's biographers, both ancient and modern.

As compared with the rest of the volume, the author's treatment of the much-vexed Vespucci question is scarcely to be regarded as satisfactory. In the *Proceedings* of the Royal Geographical Society for September last Mr. Markham remarked that in 1501 "Vespucci went to Lisbon and remained in Portugal for four years"; whereas in the volume before us he writes that he "went to Portugal." Are we to assume that this is intended as a correction of the former statement in the *Proceedings*? In his 'Columbus' he appears to admit, upon the authority of Peter Martyr, the genuineness of Vespucci's third voyage (the first made for Portugal), 1501-2. Quite recently there turned up in Holland an apparently unknown letter of Vespucci addressed "Mijn vrient Lauerenti Iek Albericus" (probably to Lorenzo di Pier Francisco de Medici), recording a voyage made by him from Lisbon to Calicut from March, 1500, and his return to Lisbon on November 15th, 1501. As far as we have been able to study it in facsimile, it accords with none of the hitherto known letters of Vespucci, nor with the voyages of Pedralvares Cabral or João da Nova which cover the same period. The letter was printed in Dutch by Jan van Doesborch at Antwerp, December 1st, 1508, twelve leaves. We believe it is now in America, and only one copy is known in the Old World. It is intended to publish this letter in facsimile and append to it a translation into English. As far as we know, it has never been suspected hitherto that Vespucci reached India shortly before Ludovico da Varthema, 1503. If this letter should turn out to be genuine, Vespucci could not have "remained in Portugal for four years."

Still less are we satisfied with Mr. Markham's solution of the enigma of the north-west portion of the 'Carta Marina' of 1513, the prototypes of which are the Caneiro and the Cantino maps of 1502-4. Varnhagen in 1865 and Mr. Harrisse in 1883 contended that the lower portion was intended for Florida. Mr. Henry Stevens held, as we do, that it was Cuba (see life of J. Schöner, 1888, pp. xx and xxxiv). Mr. Winsor in 1891 declared, "It is a proposition not to be dismissed lightly nor accepted triumphantly on our present knowledge. We must wait for further developments" ('Columbus,' p. 424). Mr. Markham's development is that it represents Cortereal's second voyage of 1502, and that "the southern point appears to be the entrance to the Gulf of Chesapeake" (and barely thirty feet high) "with the islands on the east side." But on all these three old charts the islands are shown on the west side, and not on the east.

It is useless to labour the question further, as Mr. Harrisse in his 'Discovery of North America,' plate v., shows conclusively that Cortereal's voyage of 1501 was between Greenland and Newfoundland, and that he nowhere came near Chesapeake Bay. No one disputes that Columbus was off the west end of Cuba on the last day of April, 1494; hence on the three old charts we read "C do fin" or "fimm do Abrill"; higher up we read "Costa alta," which again will apply to no place on the Atlantic coast south of Nova Scotia. The common-sense inference is that the two names can only apply to Cuba. Moreover "C. de fund Abril" is found on Ruysch's map of 1508 in its true position at the east end of Cuba, which is also indicated as an island, and not as a continent as Mr. Harrisse and Mr. Markham suppose.

Mr. Markham (on p. 200) very generously credits Mr. Harrisse with his recent discovery of the Paris codex of Columbus's "Cartas, privilegios, cédulas," &c. This is entirely uncalled for, as its history and that of the Genoa one, once also in Paris, have for a long period been known to others besides Mr. Harrisse, more particularly to M. Girard de Rialle, by whom it is at present exhibited among other Columbiana in the Bibliothèque Nationale.

A word or two upon the portraits of Columbus. As far as we have been able to form an opinion, it appears to us that for antiquity and nearness to the lost Giovio painting the choice lies between the Yanez and the De Orchi portraits, the balance of evidence being in favour of the former. The De Orchi portrait, used by Mr. Markham as his frontispiece, was first reproduced in the *Cosmopolitan* for January, 1892, by Mr. W. E. Curtis, head of the Latin-American Department of the World's Columbian Exposition. The engraved portrait given by Mr. Markham on p. 69 is the one mentioned by Baron de Bonnefoux in his 'Vie de Colomb,' p. 15. There are copies in the Print Room, British Museum, and in the Lenox Library at New York. Although not of much value, we are glad to observe that the missing link, the Thevet engraving of 1584, is also reproduced by Mr. Markham. His mention of the remains of Columbus seems to show that Mr. Markham has not read the latest researches respecting them—those of Herr Rudolf Cronau in his 'Amerika,' pp. 272 and 327; also discussed in the *Magazine of American History*, March, 1892, p. 169. Our present belief is that, through some unintentional oversight, the remains of the great admiral still rest in the cathedral of San Domingo. Except in these controverted points we heartily commend Mr. Markham's work as the best compendium of the times of Columbus and his followers that has yet been written in our language. We cannot conclude our notice of it without mentioning the author's eloquent tribute of respect to the memory and labours of the late Mr. R. H. Major, who so often contributed to the pages of this journal.

It would be hardly fair to compare Mr. Elton's work with Mr. Markham's, as it is conceived from a wholly different standpoint. Mr. Elton, in his preface, sets out by saying that his "object has been rather to illustrate the explorer's character than to debate

the evidence about disputed points in his biography, or to make any estimate of the results of his discoveries." Such being the case, 'The Career of Columbus' hardly calls for a lengthened notice in these columns. Mr. Elton adds: "The only matter of abiding interest is the consideration of the inward man." The question is, Is this inward man to be found within the four corners of Mr. Elton's book? The discovery of him we prefer to leave to the diligent reader. We should have thought the best thing Mr. Elton could have done would have been to weigh all the evidence bearing upon the disputed points in the career of Columbus, in order that he might arrive at what the late Dr. Hatch would have called "the personal equation" of Columbus. As to the "inward man," we have the apostolic warning in our ears, "For who among men knoweth the things of a man, save the spirit of the man which is in him?" Mr. Elton, perhaps wisely, thought it convenient to use the spirited version of Don Ferdinand's work "upon the life of his father to be found in Churchill's collection of voyages, with such correction of obvious errors as seemed to be required." We heartily wish that he had made a few more, for they are sadly wanted.

The two weakest chapters in the book, we take it, are the tenth and eleventh, which treat of the legends of Vinland and the voyages of the brothers Zeni, both of which run counter to the latest opinions on these questions. While we agree with Mr. Elton that "many attempts have been made to diminish the fame of Columbus by statements that America was well known to the Norsemen," he would have done well to have reversed his mental processes, to have lent a little less credence to the Zeno narrative and a little more to the voyages of the Northmen, and especially to have made acquaintance with the 'Studies of the Vinland Voyages,' by Prof. Gustav Storm. As may be gathered from our notice of Mr. Markham's work, we take it that Mr. Elton's book will probably be the last that will attempt to associate the voyages of the Zeni brothers either with Columbus or America. Two of the most novel statements respecting Columbus are: "It is nearly certain that Christopher Columbus must have seen the south coast of Devonshire and entered the port of Dartmouth," and that while he lived at Seville "he kept a small bookseller's shop." There is one passage which is quite worthy of the author of the 'Origins of English History,' viz., that on the changes in the flora of the Ligurian shore near Genoa since the time of Columbus:—

"Four centuries ago the place was already like a garden, but was clothed in most parts with a different vegetation. Lemons and oranges were still unknown; no mulberry trees were required where there was no manufacture of the native silk.....Much of the land was covered with a growth of chestnuts and fig trees. Assiduous industry and experiment, aided by a change of weather as the forest disappeared, have converted a rough Alpine district into a fertile region of the South. We see that this must be so when we look back at the oldest description of Liguria."

As a whole, Mr. Elton's book is not without its uses, but it is more suitable for the general reader than for the historical student

or geographer. One curious feature of the volume is a marked absence of both illustrations and foot-notes.

NOVELS OF THE WEEK.

- The March of Fate.* By B. L. Earjeon. 3 vols. (White & Co.)
Passing the Love of Women. By Mrs. J. H. Needell. 3 vols. (Warne & Co.)
Whither? By M. E. Francis. 3 vols. (Griffith, Farran & Co.)
Rosni Harvey. By Hannah Lynch. 3 vols. (Chapman & Hall.)
Sir Godfrey's Granddaughters. By Rosa Nouchette Carey. 3 vols. (Bentley & Son.)
Nurse Elisia. By G. Manville Fenn. 2 vols. (Hurst & Blackett.)
The Fever of Life. By Fergus Hume. 2 vols. (Sampson Low & Co.)
Children of the Ghetto. By I. Zangwill. (Heinemann.)
The Adventures of Sherlock Holmes. By A. Conan Doyle. (Newnes.)
The Fate of Herbert Wayne. By E. J. Goodman. (Chatto & Windus.)
The Mate of the Vancouver. By Morley Roberts. (Lawrence & Bullen.)
The New Eden. By C. J. C. Hyne. (Longmans & Co.)
Out of the Groove. By E. B. Kennedy. (Sampson Low & Co.)
Miss Dividends. By Archibald Clavering Gunter. (Routledge & Sons.)
La Destinée de Jacques. Par Mary Floran. (Paris, Calmann Lévy.)
Marins et Soldats. Par Hugues Le Roux. (Same publisher.)
Contes sur Porcelaine. Par Jean Madeline. (Same publisher.)

THE world and its business are looked after, and, so to speak, personally conducted by a large staff of private detectives, who occupy the positions once assigned to good and evil geni. They are benevolent or malevolent, as the case may be, and they can arrange pretty well everything as they please, according to their own sense of fitness or the behests of their superiors. So, at any rate, one might imagine after reading stories like Mr. Farjeon's last. 'The March of Fate' is well enough for a title, but it is a title which must be taken with ample reservation. Fate is a fool in the hands of Mr. Farjeon's private inquiry agents and of Mr. Farjeon himself. The reader who hesitates to accept that statement may be referred to the three volumes in which the author of 'The March of Fate' traces the career of a wonderfully lucky and resourceful girl, who surpasses even the detectives at overruling and circumventing what we generally understand by Fate. The adventures of the fair Honoria are as interesting as they are improbable, and the reader may follow them, without flagging, to the final chapter.

The aims and motives that run through Mrs. Needell's novels are usually high, though it would be, perhaps, unfair to term her work the novel of purpose. 'Passing the Love of Women' was probably not easy to write; it contains striking and clever passages, yet seems lacking in real power and variety, and those finer impulses essential to well-balanced and effective writing. The friendship between the boy cousins,

which gives the story its name, is scarcely conceived and rendered with sufficient strength and conviction. As a theme it hardly conveys all it might; but the contrast in the natures of the two lads is happily drawn, though neither seems to us quite vital, or even well assured. There are, too, suggestions of girlishness in both, though it is of different types; and sundry touches in their manners, speech, and bearing reveal a woman's hand too plainly. The study of Mrs. Cartwright and her son shows concentration and earnestness rather than strength. The two characters are tame, dreary, yet overstrained and somehow out of date. We fancy that not every one will take pleasure in the development of Margery Denison's personality, or see in it an agreeable, sympathetic picture. In her the reader will find not too much, but too little femininity. Like others in the book she fails to stir deep interest, though she occasionally seems on the eve of so doing. The character of the crippled youth, though of secondary interest, shows in its treatment some strength of a disagreeable and perhaps exaggerated sort.

Why 'Whither?' should be chosen as the name of Miss Francis's rather dolorous tale is hard to say. The story, as a story, is not alluring, nor, perhaps, very probable, though it is distinctly dreary.

The scene of the story of 'Rosni Harvey' is Ireland and Greece. We seem to remember Miss Lynch before, engaged upon somewhat similar ground. Her pictures, especially the human ones, are unattractive, though her landscapes are not without feeling, if, at times, not over well focussed. Rosni is a young creature early acquainted with Greek and German philosophy in the originals. Misunderstood by her family, she throws herself with increasing ardour into the study of Kant, and even George Eliot, grieving sore because her short-sighted parents do not join in her intellectual frenzy. Why she is so profound a student does not appear, any more than why her mother is a pronounced virago, nor, for the matter of that, why the author's own grammar is no better than it should be, nor, again, why her style is at times lofty and at others quite the reverse. Rosni is not strictly beautiful, but—as her father indiscreetly hastens to assure the new tutor, who straightway falls in love and enrages the family—her waist has a "supple bend in it," and her throat and cheek are of attractive proportions. The tutor, who has previously been of opinion that "a woman on horseback is an indelicate picture," changes his mind. He has a habit of doing so. His brother is "gentlemanly and free of fixed vices," but in his own case "suggestions" at times "strike on his sensitive nerve-thrills in sharp repulsion," and he hastily withdraws into something called "a tutor's mask." He, or it may have been somebody else, perhaps, "breathed cold blue heights" and drank deep draughts of Browning and German metaphysic. His grammar was not, however, above reproach. He talked of a baby boy he might "have learned to love had its soul not have taken wing so soon." The relatives of Rosni herself also took flight one after another, and she and a giddy girl-cousin, known as Annie, fled to Greece. They foregathered with modern Greeks and Britishers who

suffered the severest pangs of "marine prostration" on record. Headaches, too, set in amongst them, possibly because most of them had a way of "roaring," "shrieking," or "screaming" in conversation. At one time Rosni figured as "a rapidly diminishing form of sombre enframed womanhood." Her final appearance, as a "quiet-looking interesting bride, in a dark navy blue dress, with a wide hat weighed down sideways by a heavy feather," is more reassuring. The giddy-pated Annie (wooed and won by the gentlemanly being without fixed vices), "arrayed in a coquettish gown of peacock blue," made, we are told, "a brighter, daintier bridal image."

Sir Godfrey's granddaughters are nice and pretty young women, and they go through some pretty and romantic adventures with some exceptionally handsome and enterprising young men. In describing these happy folk and these romantic adventures Miss Carey is in her element; and Miss Carey in her element is very graceful and very optimistic. So that the reader who likes Miss Carey's bright and mercurial style of telling a domestic romance will understand that he (or, a little more probably, she) has a treat in prospect.

Mr. Manville Fenn's new group of puppets are not very distinctive in character, but he contrives to make their actions and fortunes appeal in an attractive manner to the audience in front of his stage. Elisia is not only a nurse, but also a duke's daughter, and if she has a certain difficulty in getting on with her sister nurses, and with other ladies whom she meets on her way through the world, she has a measure of compensation in winning the hearts of all the men. There are complications. There are circumstances which almost invariably lead to complications, and Nurse Elisia has a somewhat chequered experience. In the long run she fairly avenges her sex and her calling for all the tyrannies which have been exercised upon the modern nurse by the overbearing doctor, and strikes out for herself a soul-satisfying career.

Speedily repenting of his temporary adhesion to sedater methods and a more cultivated style, Mr. Fergus Hume plunges once more into the melodrama in which he won his earliest success. His title is well chosen, for a more feverish plot could hardly have been devised. The central figure is a half-caste Maori woman who attains great celebrity as an Italian *prima donna*. It is perhaps the result of her origin that she addresses Signor Stephano Ferrari as "carissima," but Mr. Hume's Italian is no more above suspicion than his knowledge of music. For example, he talks of a young lady favouring the company at a seaside boarding-house "with a noisy piece of the most advanced school, which had no melody, but was full of contrapuntal devices." In the choice of his names Mr. Hume has modelled himself on Dickens's worst manner—Pincher, Tandle, Pols, Spons, Belk, Gelthrip, Pethram, Chintler Lane, and Jepple Street being a few specimens of his nomenclature. For the rest, 'The Fever of Life' is marked by a certain coarse vivacity which carries the reader on from improbability to improbability to the final catastrophe. The fine literary quality of Mr. Hume's style is excellently illustrated in the last sentence of

the book: "Maxwell, who had removed his hat when he heard this prayer mount like incense to the throne of God, quoted a text from the Scriptures in a low voice—'She suffered much, so much shall be forgiven of her.'"

It is an encouraging sign about Mr. Zangwill's work that of his three chief books the last two have each shown a distinct advance on its predecessor. In 'Children of the Ghetto' he strikes out a new line; for whereas in 'The Bachelors' Club' and 'The Old Maids' Club' he had done little more than give unbridled licence to his ingenious wit, the present book is a serious novel of considerable merit. As the title implies, it is concerned with the Jews who swarm in the East-End of London, though later on the course of the story introduces us to the Hebrew respectabilities who dwell in Kensington and Bayswater. But the chief interest of the book lies in the wonderful description of the Whitechapel Jews, whose old beliefs and habits are comparatively uncorrupted by contact with Christianity and wealth. The picture is most sympathetically drawn, and Mr. Zangwill brings out with great force their hospitality and generosity to one another, their sense of humour and its invariable accompaniment, tact, their Eastern childishness, and their patient practice of irksome religious duties. Nor does he fail to bring home the grandeur and solidarity of the nation, which, scattered throughout the globe and in spite of every adverse circumstance, has maintained for two thousand years its ancient religion and national feeling. But his sympathy does not blind him to their faults, their occasional snobbishness, and their love of display, or to the cruel narrowness and fanaticism with which their zealots observe the rabbinical laws. Moreover the vividness and force with which Mr. Zangwill brings before us the strange and uncouth characters with which he has peopled his book are truly admirable. Pinchas, the poet, with gigantic plans and still more gigantic self-conceit; the bigoted yet tender-hearted old rabbi; the enthusiasts Strelitski and Raphael Leon; and the Hyams couple, whose love did not come till nearly forty years after their marriage, are some of the most successful character-sketches where nearly all are cleverly drawn. The chief defect of the book is one which we noticed as apparent in 'The Old Maids' Club,' a want of care in putting the story together. It is good stuff ill digested, and shows signs of haste. If Mr. Zangwill had by better construction avoided causing his reader so much bewilderment in the earlier chapters from the rapidity with which the characters succeed one another, his labour would have been repaid; and he would also have done well not to have made two such strong centres of interest in the same book as Hannah and Esther. From an artistic point of view the novel would have gained by the omission of Book II., all but the solitary chapter which concerns Hannah. A graver fault is that a want of good taste is sometimes apparent: Esther's conduct, for example, jars on the reader in some particulars, and her farewell letter to Mrs. Goldsmith is worthy of a saucy servant girl. But, to end our notice of this book with praise, as is only just, admirers of Mr.

Zangwill's fecund wit will not fail to find flashes of it in these pages, and their comparative rarity distinctly adds to their brilliancy. Here and there, too, a noteworthy phrase occurs, such as, "It is only by being misunderstood that a great man can have any influence on his kind"; and this in a description of an early morning walk through the West-End, "Great sleeping houses lined her path like gorged monsters drowsing voluptuously."

For those to whom the good, honest, breathless detective story is dear Dr. Doyle's book will prove a veritable godsend. Of its kind it is excellent; there is little literary pretension about it, and there is hardly any waste of time about subtle character-drawing; but incident succeeds incident with the most businesslike rapidity, and the unexpected always occurs with appropriate regularity. Of the dozen stories of which the book is made up there is not one which does not contain a thorough-paced mystery, apparently insoluble; but the solution is always satisfactorily wormed out by that marvellous amateur detective, Sherlock Holmes. The adventures are all vastly improbable; but no matter; that has never detracted from an orthodox detective story. For genuine horror Dr. Doyle has a lively turn; in 'The Speckled Band' and 'The Engineer's Thumb' (mark the subtle suggestions of terror in the titles) the reader is worked up to such a pitch of nervous excitement that he is ready for almost anything: the first of these is worthy of Wilkie Collins. The chief defect of the book is the attempt to infuse vitality into Sherlock Holmes. It would have been better to leave him more of a detective-machine; as it is, one gets rather wearied of his swaggering assurance, of his nights of silent thought, and of his habit of mystifying inoffensive strangers by describing to them all their little weaknesses. Still, much may be forgiven him for his wonderful 'cuteness and for his hardly veiled contempt of our official detective police—a trait which is said to tell with the British public. The English is not always irreproachable: "If you will keep the two corner seats I shall get the tickets," for example, is bad.

'The Fate of Herbert Wayne' is, perhaps, the best story that its author has told up to the present time. Mr. Goodman explains in a preface how he came to hit upon an idea very similar to that of a romance which was published some time ago; but as there is no question of plagiarism, conscious or unconscious, and as Mr. Goodman has delayed publication until he is himself the only possible sufferer, his book deserves the reception generally accorded to an original plot in fiction.

There is no particular reason why Mr. Morley Roberts should not take a leaf out of Mr. Clark Russell's book, and tell a story of an exciting trip on board a British barque—with a well-set-up young mate, and a neat and handy girl, and traitors amongst the crew, and a smart bit of seamanship which staves off a shipwreck. But the most exciting adventures of the mate of the Vancouver are those which he meets on dry ground, amongst the cañons of British Columbia. Whether on sea or on land, Tom Ticehurst and his friends have many hairbreadth escapes, and their course

is marked by the sanguinary trail which is quite indispensable in the popular adventure stories of the day.

Mr. Hyne's latest contribution to fiction has little to recommend it save its peculiarity. It has no beginning worth speaking of. It does not end, it simply leaves off. It has no moral that we have been able to fathom, and displays a very imperfect sense of humour. The story, if story it can be called, is concerned with the experiment of an anonymous archduke, who has planted two children, male and female, on adjoining and uninhabited islets in the South Seas. The boy on growing up makes his way on a raft to the abode of the girl, and we are favoured with a transcript of their experiences for the next few years. The hero and heroine—if such titles are applicable—are called Adam and Eve, and their offspring Cain. The book is certainly neither edifying, amusing, nor interesting. If it be intended as a squib or a satire, it is but a dreary and tasteless effort. On the other hand, if meant seriously, it is valueless to the scientific reader.

'Out of the Groove' is really a good story, founded on fact, as the author tells his readers in his preface. There are no incidents which are in themselves incredible, and but few that are horrible. Some of the scenes are well and graphically described; there is little attempt at fine writing; the moral is commendable, although the theology, which is most unnecessarily introduced, will offend many.

To read 'Miss Dividends,' by the author of 'Mr. Barnes of New York' and 'Mr. Potter of Texas,' is almost as effectual, by way of diversion and entertainment, as a visit to Col. Cody and his cowboys. The characters are so full of nervous energy and physical stir that they very soon get on the reader's nerves. Where average people would speak and converse, they scream, or shriek, or yell, or howl; and their actions are equally pronounced and positive. Erna Travenion is the motherless daughter of a New York man about town, who has run through one fortune and has gone to Utah in quest of another. Erna had been left behind in the charge of one of her mother's friends, but at last she makes up her mind to pay her father a surprise visit. She discovers him as a Mormon bishop, preaching to a congregation which includes a batch of her own half-brothers and half-sisters. Then the real interest and excitement of the story begin. Mr. Gunter has an eye for effects, and manages to introduce a few strong situations; but some readers may find the strength of this story a little too imposing throughout.

'La Destinée de Jacques' is a "lady's novel," readable and pretty, though perhaps not very true to life.

We confess to being disappointed at the earlier pages of 'Marins et Soldats,' in which M. Hugues Le Roux presents sundry rather slight sketches of fishermen and others (not by any means all soldiers and sailors), chiefly in Norman *patois*. Some of the later stories are, however, extraordinarily powerful.

The construction of the French short story has of late years become somewhat of a trick—which can be learnt. But, making all allowance for this consideration,

and admitting that in 'Contes sur Porcelaine' there is some imitation of Catulle Mendès and some of Alphonse Daudet, the fact remains that it is a most remarkable first book.

CHRISTMAS BOOKS.

The Boy's Own Book of Health and Strength. By Gordon Stables, M.D. (Jarrold & Son.)

Steady your Helm. By William Charles Metcalfe. (Nisbet & Co.)

Strange yet True. By Dr. Macaulay. (Same publishers.)

Berie the Briton. By G. A. Henty. Illustrated. (Blackie & Son.)

The Capture of the Cruiser. By C. J. Hyne. (Same publishers.)

Gil the Gunner. By G. Manville Fenn. Illustrated. (Society for Promoting Christian Knowledge.)

Maggie Steele's Diary. By E. A. Dillwyn. (Cassell & Co.)

The Feather. By Ford H. Madox Hueffer. (Fisher Unwin.)

DR. GORDON STABLES has compiled from various sources a highly readable code of advice on sanitary and athletic subjects. His rules for health and strength are based on common sense, and much good morality is also impressed on his young readers. He seems somewhat to undervalue the old English game of cricket, surely one of the best all-round exercises for mind and body. Rowing, too, he touches very slightly; and to speak of its effect on the chest and arms, without mentioning the more important leg-work, is one-sided criticism. The book is enlivened by notices of sundry athletic heroes. In these and other matters our author lets his patriotism become too aggressive. We fancy some of the great Donald Dinnie's feats have been surpassed both in England and Ireland. It is also a little hardy to say that "England has no national music of a high character," even if she concede many of those old ballads which are common to both sides of the Border. And though 'Cheer, Boys, Cheer!' was written by a Scotchman, his name was not Maclean, but Mackay. Still less to our taste is the little bit of boasting about the superiority of the Scots to the English in war. The Scots were and are superb fighters, but has Dr. Gordon Stables never heard of a little event at Dunbar, where his countrymen were more than two to one?

There is no falling off in the merit of Mr. Metcalfe's sea stories. The present is a tale of two lads who run away from school (doubtful moral this), and, being dragged by a crimp, are put on board a merchant ship as involuntary stowaways. The ship being scuttled by the villainous captain and carpenter, an American mate with a fine accent takes charge of the crew on an island in those China seas, of the dangers of which the ill-starred Bokhara has just given us so terrible an example. The hard life before the mast in a merchant vessel is clearly set forth.

Few books can be better for the young than those which treat of striking episodes of real history. They are, if the incidents be well selected and the treatment vivid, an inducement to take interest in the study on a larger scale of one of the most necessary, but least utilized foundations of sound political thought. In Dr. Macaulay's book both these conditions are fulfilled. Among the five-and-twenty true stories in his book none is trifling, and many are of the highest interest. When we mention the adventurous exile of Thomas Muir, the Scottish political martyr; the services and death from a broken heart of Waghorn, the pioneer of the Overland route; the exodus during the Dragonnades of the pilgrims of Ardèche, and their reception in his territory by the high-hearted Count von Solms-Braunfels; Anson's voyage;

the Trent affair; the adventures in Central Africa of Frederic Arnot, the most unobtrusive, but not the least meritorious of African explorers; and an account of "The American Underground Railway," it will be seen that Dr. Macaulay in 'Strange yet True' gives his reader good measure as well as great diversity of subjects.

Mr. Henty has gone back to the days of Nero, and relates the adventures of a young British chief who has been taken prisoner after the failure of the revolt of the Iceni, and trained as a gladiator at Rome. Of course the Christians appear in the arena, and there is an account of the fire and of the interior of Nero's palace.

Mr. Hyne's sea story is all of the modern time, dealing with armour plates and torpedoes, *et hoc genus omne*. The two public-school boys who get blown out to sea have the experience of four different ships, from a Chilean man-of-war to a coasting schooner, and take, of course, a leading part in every adventure.

Mr. Fenn's Mutiny story of that renowned corps the Bengal Horse Artillery reminds us of the tremendous convulsion which elderly men look back to as the most critical time our empire has passed within their knowledge. The experiences of the young gunner are admirably told, the most stirring incident, the recovery of the guns and horses of the troop from the enemy's hands by the officers placing themselves at its head and the trumpets sounding the gallop, being too good not to be true. Some of the native characters are happily described.

'Maggie Steele's Diary' appears to be a story intended to point the moral that people are not always so black as they paint themselves; but it is questionable whether it succeeds. No amount of heroic dying can make the reader feel any sympathy with the obtuse and dismal heroine, whose very virtues become odious from the manner in which they are described. The slight amount of incident turns on the well-worn theme of a designing governess who affords facilities to her confederate, a burglar, to ply his trade in the house. A word of protest must be raised against the hideous cover in which Messrs. Cassell have thought fit to clothe this dreary book.

Mr. Hueffer's latest excursion into the domain of fairyland is marred by two conspicuous defects—the infelicitous choice of names and the still more infelicitous intrusion into the dialogue of the "scores," the "chaff," and the puns of the modern humourist. When King Abbonamento's son Treblo returns, the former salutes him as his "long-lost chee-yld"; and the dialogue between Treblo and Mumkie is enlivened by venerable jokes on "hoarse" and "horse" and the various meanings of the words "crown" and "sovereign." The reference to the king who "raised the price of everything that begins with s, like 'sausages,' and 'sealing-wax,' and 'soap,' and 'sewing-machines,'" strikes on the ear with a familiar sound, and the device of converting the *Parce* into the Miss Parkers is not to be commended. When Mr. Hueffer is not trying to be facetious, but gives free play to his fancy, the results are pleasing enough, but the rapid alternations of sentiment and grotesquerie are likely to prove disconcerting to child readers. Mr. Madox Brown has contributed a characteristic frontispiece to this dainty little volume.

OUR LIBRARY TABLE.

The most powerful and the most obviously truthful among the later exposures of the government of Russia which had appeared until last week was a book on the Siberian prison system by an American. Now another American takes up the tale, and tells us, with even greater force, and with equal truth, upon another head, as

damning a story. Russia has a fascination for Americans. To one, now dead, we owe an excellent historical work upon that country; to another, also dead, the best friendly description of the conduct of her modern soldiers in the field. Against these two pleasant pictures we have now to set two terrible indictments. To defend the treatment by the Russians of their prisoners in Siberia, Mr. de Windt arose. Who will defend the Russian treatment of the Jews of European Russia? In *The New Exodus*, published by Mr. Heinemann, Mr. Harold Frederic tells of a frightful persecution, of which the witnesses and the victims are here at our doors, in the very city in which we write. That Mr. Frederic's pen is capable of a sustained literary effort his 'In the Valley' bears testimony, but there is nothing of "literature" about the present work. 'The New Exodus' is a prodigious, shocking pamphlet, not more in the way of the *Athenæum* than were the works on Russian prisons named above—political and of the hour—yet not for that reason to be hastily passed by. The denunciation of the Emperor's tutor, the Procurator of the Holy Synod, Pobiedonostseff, of General Ignatieff, and of the Grand Duke Sergius, which this book contains, may possibly, in some degree, be directed against the wrong men. The wrong men, too, may be praised. Mr. Frederic defends the late Governor-General of Moscow, now dead, the predecessor in office of the Grand Duke Sergius. Heaven help Russia if that governor was the best that, in these later days, she could find for one of her highest posts! But, if some of Mr. Frederic's inferences from his facts may be but in part well founded, the facts themselves and the main lines of his story are at the service of all who please to look for them, in Russia itself, or among the exiles in Germany, in Austria, in London, in the United States. These horrors are fresh. They have happened in 1891 and 1892: they are occurring still, and they present a sadder picture to us than aught which has gone before in Europe in our time.

Mr. Frederic's book shows some slight signs of haste. Certain Russian names are spelt in two different ways—a venial matter, as the Russian vowel sounds, being different from ours, do not, each of them, exactly answer to any one English vowel. The term "Greek" is somewhat loosely used for "Russian" in some church matters, and for "orthodox" in others. At p. 221 an account of the supposed reasons for the conversion to the forms of the Eastern Church of the Queen's granddaughter, the Grand Duchess Sergius, is given, though the story has already been told at p. 191. The book is disfigured by some "literals" which make nonsense of passages, as, for example, at p. 254. But it is a book which, even if hasty, and all the more, perhaps, because evidently dashed off in the stress of strong feeling, takes hold of the reader, convinces him of its sincerity, and makes him burn with shame that such things should be possible in Christian Europe.

In the next book that comes before us for notice, *The Marquis of Salisbury*, published by Messrs. Nisbet & Co., the author, the Rev. James Ellis, defends the subject of the biography for having advised British intervention on behalf of the Poles in 1861. We do not know, as he admits that "representations" do more harm than good, if he would wish us to go to war with Russia. But he may rest assured that the persecution of the Jews in 1891 was as frightful as was that of the Poles in 1861, and it was unprovoked. Mr. Ellis's present volume is better than his last, that on Mr. Gladstone, but he has a rather provoking habit of lecturing the statesmen on whom he discourses. There are some errors in the book; for instance, the reference to the "Elwe scandal," where Mr. Gladstone is being attacked for "chicanery" during his first administration. It is not true, as Mr. Ellis thinks, that the bigotry of the Afghans will

not permit the presence of a European in Cabul. They never interfere with a private person whose presence is desired by their ruler, and the present Amir has seldom been without at least one such companion who was perfectly well known to be an Englishman. At p. 146 the reference to Gambia mixes up a thing which was only talked about with a thing which was done in such a way as to suggest that that British colony has become French soil.

UNDER the title of *Football: the Rugby Union Game* (Cassell & Co.), the Rev. F. Marshall has edited a complete, almost monumental work on the history and present development of what undoubtedly is "the most ancient of all popular sports of the present day." The editor introduces his subject by a scholarly chapter in which he traces the game from the *harpastum* of Roman times, through the hurling and camp-ball which obtained in divers districts, to the common rustic game of this country—a game which has on both sides of the Border maintained the same general features from the earliest ages to the present. To such able collaborators as Messrs. A. G. Guillemard, Rowland Hill, Vassall, Marriott, Irvine, Budd, MacCarthy, and Gwynne has been allotted the task of detailing the recent history of the game and its incidents and growth as exemplified in the international and university matches, while county and metropolitan football are discussed by other able writers. To one whose recollections of play, both at Rugby school and in Scotland, in the days when the Edinburgh Academicals and St. Andrews University played many a hearty match, date to some thirty years ago, the aspect of the modern game, scientific as it is, suggests mixed reflections. The abolition of deliberate hacking, is probably a benefit. It was only necessary in the case of the enormous and unlimited numbers of old Bigside. Yet, as even Mr. Rowland Hill would grant, the old driving of the ball by the forwards, which incidentally leads to hacking, was far better than the "hooking" and off-side "heeling back" of the present game. Combined play, both back and forward, was by no means unknown in what may be called the pre-scientific era, although the reduction of the numbers to fifteen a side and the passing game perfected by Rotherham and others (the former an unmixed improvement) have made combination the leading feature of the modern game. Yet to our fancy there is much to be said for the view expressed by one of the writers (Dr. Almond), that the excessive rapidity of the passing game has added to its danger, "which is not to the limbs, but to the heart"; that the discouragement of dropping has gone far to destroy one of the most beautiful features of the game; and that "the worst change that was ever made was the abolition by the English Union in 1872 (endorsed with all other English legislation by the Scottish Union) of the old rule that the ball might not be taken into the hands except in the case of a free catch or when fairly bounding."

Among the sagest chapters before us is that by Mr. R. Hill, who gives "a sight of good advice" on the subject of professionalism, which he warns us, if once admitted, will send Rugby football the same way as pugilism and professional rowing; and among the most interesting is that on Irish football, which "may be said to consist of three parts—Rugby, Associationist, and Gaelic. The rule of play in these organizations has been defined as follows: In Rugby, you kick the ball; in Association, you kick the man if you cannot kick the ball; and in Gaelic, you kick the ball if you cannot kick the man." This seems "pre-scientific."

MESSRS. SAXON & Co. publish in London, and the Arena Publishing Company at Boston, U.S., *The Rise of the Swiss Republic*, by Mr. W. D. McCracken. This work forms an excellent history of Switzerland, and gives also the text of the constitution and some explanation of the Referendum. There is, however, still room for

a more complete picture than any which exists of the building up of the modern political federation and of its existing leading features. Neither the work of Sir F. O. Adams nor Mr. McCracken's seems to us complete; and Mr. McCracken has taken so much trouble, while other American writers have also taken so much trouble on the Referendum and certain other special points, that we cannot but wish that those who, unlike Sir F. O. Adams, are still living, would put their heads together and give us that which is still lacking, a perfect monograph on Switzerland.

MR. ADAMS has written better books than *The Melbourneans* (Edgar Remington), we therefore can advise him to try his hand again. Were our knowledge of his merits confined to what we can derive from 'The Melbourneans,' we might hesitate to do so. Love-making in both hemispheres is very similar. Shooting rabbits and spraining ankles in their burrows are scarcely sufficient to create any essential novelty in the pastime. We doubt whether even Australian patriotism ever induced a "currency lass" to jilt an English lord for a sub-editor.

Four Biographical Sketches, by the Rev. J. Morgan (Stock), are studies of four Welsh notables. That of Thirlwall will be the most interesting to general readers; but although Mr. Morgan has striven to do the great bishop justice, he evidently has a little difficulty about it. At heart he probably likes Ollivant better. The list of Thirlwall's writings is not accurate. "Thurton" is, of course, a literal. The first edition of the history of Greece is not distinguished from the second. Hare and Thirlwall did not translate the whole of Niebuhr's Roman history, and there are other mistakes. Mr. Morgan has something to learn in bibliography.—Prof. Heurtley's *History of the Earlier Formularies of Faith* (Parker) is a convenient manual.

The Spectator: a Digest-Index, by Mr. W. Wheeler (Routledge & Co.), is a work for which the compiler deserves the gratitude of every student of Addison.

Elizabethan and Jacobean Pamphlets (Percival & Co.) is a capital selection, as might be expected from an editor of Mr. Saintsbury's reading.—*The Love Songs of Robert Burns*, edited by Sir G. Douglas, is a welcome addition to Mr. Unwin's "Cameo Series."—Dr. Jessopp has made his selections of *Wise Words and Quaint Counsels of Thomas Fuller* in a most sympathetic and discriminating spirit. Better reading the Clarendon Press has not supplied us with for a long time, and "no stationer" will lose by putting copies of it on his counter. The memoir of Fuller, as may be supposed, is excellent.—*Choice Passages from the Writings and Letters of Sir Walter Raleigh* is a pretty little volume in Mr. Stock's "Elizabethan Library," fairly well selected by Dr. Grosart; but the binding is so bad it tumbles to pieces on opening the book, and the portrait is poor.

A Dainty edition of the *Poetical Works of Oliver Wendell Holmes* has reached us from Mr. Douglas, of Edinburgh: another specimen of the excellence of Edinburgh printing. The venerable Autocrat contributes a few words of preface.—Mr. Reynolds has followed up his excellent edition of Bacon's essays with one of *The Table Talk of John Selden* (Oxford, Clarendon Press). His care about the text and his judicious annotations give the volume a decided advantage over Singer's handy edition.—To the charming edition of Miss Austen's novels which Messrs. Dent are bringing out *Emma* has been added. Two volumes come to us from the same enterprising firm containing a laudably complete edition of Landor's poetry, edited by Mr. C. G. Crump: *Poems, Dialogues in Verse, and Epigrams*, by Walter Savage Landor. Mr. Crump's preface is a piece of most sensible criticism.—*The Surgeon's Daughter* and *Castle Dangerous* complete the really wonderful edition Messrs.

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Black have published in sixpenny volumes of the "Waverley Novels." Scott's poetry (let us hope complete) is to follow in the same form.

—Mr. Heywood sends us a convenient edition of Edwin Waugh's masterpiece in prose, his *Sketches of Lancashire*, both the first and the second series. A good portrait is prefixed to the first volume, and an interesting memoir by Mr. Milner. These two volumes are an instalment of a collected edition of Waugh's writings which ought to prove successful.—Mr. Lang's chatty volume, *The Library* (Macmillan), appears in a new and enlarged edition. The trustees of the Lightfoot Fund have done a wise thing in collecting from the lamented bishop's commentaries on the epistles of St. Paul five of his learned essays, and reprinting them in a volume under the title *Dissertations on the Apostolic Age* (Macmillan). Maurice's *Theological Essays*, which led to his expulsion from King's College, have been reprinted for the fifth time by Messrs. Macmillan.

MESSRS. MOWBRAY & Co. have sent us a packet of Christmas cards of an ecclesiastical character, and suited to the wants of a large public.

We have on our table *Life of Voltaire*, by F. Espinasse (Scott).—*The Siege of Norwich Castle*, by M. M. Blake (Seeley).—*Illustrated Europe: The Landquart-Davos Railway*, by J. Hauri; *The Kursaal Maloja in the Upper Engadine and its Environs*, by W. Altenburg (Zurich, Orell & Füssli).—*Human Origins*, by S. Laing (Chapman & Hall).—*Pitt Press Series: P. Ovidii Nasonis Metamorphoseon, Liber I.*, with English Notes by the Rev. L. D. Dowdall; *The Iliad of Homer*, Book VI., by G. M. Edwards (Cambridge, University Press).—*Key to a First Latin Verse Book*, by W. E. P. Pantin (Macmillan).—*Handbook of Latin Difficulties for Beginners*, by P. H. Frost (Longmans).—*Shall and Will*, by A. Bernon (Hachette).—*Longman's School Mensuration*, by A. J. Pearce (Longmans).—*Induction Coils*, by G. E. Bonney (Whittaker).—*Elementary Lessons in Freehand Design*, by W. McDougle: No. I. *Greek*; No. II. *Moresque* (Johnston).—*Practical Hints on the Technique and Touch of Pianoforte Playing*, by A. Goodwin (Augener).—*An Appeal to the Canadian Institute on the Rectification of Parliament*, by S. Fleming (Toronto, the Copp, Clark Co.).—*Book Collecting*, by J. H. Slater (Sonnenschein).—*Private Schools and Private Schoolmasters*, by an Assistant Master (Digby & Long).—*Proceedings of the Royal Colonial Institute*, Vol. XXIII. (the Institute).—*Religious Art*, by C. M. Kettle (Aberdeen, Avery).—*Socialism tested by Facts*, by M. D. O'Brien (Liberty and Property Defence League).—*Ambulance Lectures*, by G. H. Darwin (Griffin).—*Contributions to North American Ethnology*, Vol. VI. (Washington, Government Printing Office).—*Young England*, Vol. XIII. ('Young England' Office).—*Quaker Pictures*, by W. Whitten (Hicks).—*Felix Holt Secundus*, by A. M. (Scott).—*A Batch of Golfing Papers*, by A. Lang and others (Simpkin).—*Loyal* (Routledge).—*Over the Hills and Far Away*, by C. Scott (Eglington).—*Moor and Moss*, by Mary H. Debenham (National Society).—*This Wicked World*, by J. H. Friswell (Hutchinson).—*Jockey Jack*, by N. Gould (Routledge).—*The English Elocutionist*, by C. Hartley (Newmann).—*The Secrets of the South: Australian Poems*, by S. Jephcott (Reeves).—*Rhymes and Reflections*, by G. H. Powell (Lawrence & Bullen).—*Sardonious and Pandemics, a Political Satire*, by G. R. Hedley (Scott).—*Lyrical Studies*, by M. S. C. Rickards (Baker).—*The Magistrate, a Farce in Three Acts*, by A. W. Pinero (Heinemann).—*The Galilean*, by W. Lloyd (Williams & Norgate).—*Man's Great Charter*, by F. E. Coggin (Nisbet).—*The Story of Bishop Colenso*, by F. Gregg (Sunday School Association).—*Preachers of the Age*, Vols. I. to VIII. (Low).—*and The Critical Review*, edited by

Prof. S. D. F. Salmond, Vol. II. (Edinburgh, T. & T. Clark).

LIST OF NEW BOOKS.

ENGLISH.

Theology.

- Bettany's (G. T.) *The Great Indian Religions*, cr. 8vo. 2/6 cl.; A Sketch of the History of Judaism and Christianity, cr. 8vo. 3/6 cl.
Book by Book, *Popular Studies on the Canon of Scripture*, by Bishop of Ripon and others, cr. 8vo. 7/6 cl.
Faith, Eleven Sermons, with Preface by Rev. H. C. Beeching, cr. 8vo. 3/6 cl.
Kellogg's (Rev. S. H.) *The Genesis and Growth of Religion*, cr. 8vo. 6/ cl.
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Strauss's *Life of Jesus*, a New Translation by J. L. M'Ilraith, cr. 8vo. 2/6 cl.
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- Davies's (J.) *Whitehall Music Examinations*, 12mo. 2/6 cl.
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Philosophy.

- Plato's *Dialogues*, reprinted from the Translation of W. Whewell, 12mo. 4/6 cl.
Stewart's (J. A.) *Notes on the Nicomachean Ethics of Aristotle*, 2 vols. 8vo. 32/ cl.

Political Economy.

- Blissard's (W.) *The Ethics of Usury and Interest*, cr. 8vo. 2/6

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- Chapman (J., D.D.), *First Bishop of Colombo. Memorials of, with Prefatory Letter from Right Rev. E. Durnford*, 5/ cl.
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- Poems of W. Dunbar, ed. by J. Schipper, Part 3, 5m. 60.

Science.

- Roche's *Procédés d'Etude pour l'Exploration sous-océanique*, 7fr. 50.

- Sachs (J.): *Gesammelte Abhandlungen üb. Pflanzen-Physiologie*, Vol. 1, 16m.

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- Samson (Madame J.): *Trop moudaine*, 3fr. 50.

- Septupéry (L.): *L'Europe politique en 1892*, Part 1, 3fr.

- Tarbé (E.): *L'Histoire d'Angèle Valoy*, 3fr. 50.

COPYHOLDS AND EVICTIONS IN 1517.

THE publication of the famous Lansdowne MS. at the British Museum which contains a transcript of the great agrarian Inquisition of the year 1517 is a work of which the Royal Historical Society may feel somewhat proud, seeing that the difficulties and the tediousness of such a task, as well as the great expense of printing such an immense mass of statistics, have hitherto deterred many competent investigators. In fact, the existence of this MS. has been perfectly well known for a long time past, and it has even been used as evidence of the nature of the great economic changes of the sixteenth century by writers like Profs. Cunningham and Ashley; but until the entire text was transcribed, and the result tabulated in the manner with which we have been familiarized by the late Prof. Thorold Rogers's great work, little information of real value could be gleaned from these remarkable returns.

At the same time the Royal Historical Society has been very fortunate in its editor, Mr. I. S. Leadam, who brings to the study of his own period a practical acquaintance with the law,

and a most extensive reading of ancient and modern authorities. A knowledge of the latter is especially requisite, since in addition to Mr. Seeböhm's famous work the question of English villainage has been discussed with the utmost learning in Prof. Maitland's edition of manorial records for the Selden Society, in Prof. Vinogradoff's great work just issued by the Clarendon Press, and in more ephemeral literature. Therefore it will be obvious that a high standard of historical scholarship was essential to a satisfactory edition of this text, and there will be small doubt in the minds of most students of the subject that Mr. Leadam's work leaves little to be desired.

The present edition of the Lansdowne Inquisition is making its appearance in the *Transactions* of the Royal Historical Society, and will be completed in two or three parts. Part I., which is contained in vol. vi. (new series) of the *Transactions* just issued, consists of a long introduction of nearly one hundred pages, with the text of the royal commission on inclosures, dated May 28th, 1517, and voluminous statistics derived from the text itself, and tabulated (as mentioned above) in the manner of the 'History of Prices.'

The headings of these tables practically give the key to the object of the inquiry in the sixteenth century as well as to the interest which its evidence possesses for economic writers in our own day. We find accordingly the number of inclosures, parishes, extent inclosed, quality of land inclosed, classes of persons inclosing, ploughs put down, persons ejected, houses decayed, churches decayed, common rights taken away, date of inclosure, and observations.

Prof. Ashley, after a hasty inspection of these returns, seems to have adopted the view that the evidence of evictions contained therein is fatal to the older theory of Coke and his school as to the security enjoyed by customary tenants since the decision of Chief Justice Brian in 1482, and that we must suppose this decision to have been the work of a Yorkist judge, and that it was repudiated after the Tudor accession, thus making possible the severities practised in 1517, after which these tenants gradually obtained that security of tenure which was undoubtedly observable in the time of Coke. This view is decidedly an ingenious one, but it proves to be directly opposed to the true results of the returns as they are at last tabulated here, and it will be found that although evictions and depopulation are a feature of the movement, it does not necessarily follow that the persons evicted were copyholders. This in fact is the simple solution of the difficulty; for while it is perfectly clear that for long previously, and, of course, still more fully after the date in question, the position of the customary tenants was becoming rapidly improved, there was another class of precarious husbandmen which had grown up since the Great Death, and which has virtually only achieved some approach to fixity of tenure in our own day. These men, the small tenant-farmers, tenants-at-will, practically, or for a year with a nominal six months' notice, were those who were actually evicted during the great rush for land in the sixteenth century, and not the copyholders proper. It is true that advantage was taken of the neglect or ignorance of these, too, by grasping landlords; but the records of the courts of law, and especially of the Courts of Chancery, of Star Chamber, and Requests, during the Tudor period will show the real strength of their position, which amounted in most cases to the possession of an estate of inheritance hardly less certain or profitable than the ancient military tenure which flourished side by side with it.

The truth is that each had become a striking anomaly; for just as the military tenant could no longer be distrained for interminable scutages and aids, so the

medieval villain had blossomed forth into a customary tenant holding in some cases the title and rank of "gentleman." Indeed, so highly coveted was the possession of a customary estate in this period that there was an active competition for reversions amongst city speculators. Therefore we may safely conclude, as Mr. Leadam does, that whoever else was evicted at the time of the great Inquisition of 1517, the copyholders certainly were not, though on any grounds the record of depopulation with which we are presented here is a sufficiently deplorable event.

THE DUCHESS OF CAJANELLO.

A TELEGRAM from Naples at the beginning of last week brought the melancholy news of the death on the 21st of October, at the opening of her forty-fourth year, of Anne Charlotte Leffler, Duchess of Cajanello, perhaps the most talented of the Swedish writers of our generation. She was one of a gifted family, the daughter of the well-known mathematician Prof. C. O. Leffler. Born in Stockholm on the 16th of October, 1849, she early showed signs of a precocious talent, and received an education far more elaborate and technical than is usually given to girls, even in Sweden. When she grew up she turned from science to *belles-lettres*, and never returned to the exacter forms of study, although she always spoke with warmth of the value of her mental training. A volume of short stories appeared in 1872, and Miss Leffler continued to produce successive series of such tales. She was, however, beyond all else a dramatist, and it was on the stage that her principal triumphs were won. In 1873 a dramatic sketch called 'Skådespelerskan' ('The Actress') was performed with much success at the Royal Theatre in Stockholm. It was succeeded by 'Under Toffeln' ('Under the Slipper'), a two-act comedy; by 'Pastorsadjunkten' ('The Curate'); and, at the New Theatre in 1880, by 'Elfvän' ('The Fairy'), a drama in three acts. During all this time the authorship of these pieces, which created a growing curiosity, was strictly concealed.

In 1882, however, this anonymity was removed, and the new edition of the first series of the remarkable stories called 'Ur Livvet' ('From Life') bore her name on the title-page. About this time she married a gentleman of the name of Edgren. Her tales, and especially those contained in the second volume of 'Ur Livvet' (1883), attracted a great deal of heated discussion, for Mrs. Edgren placed herself in the forefront of the little army of realists who were endeavouring to revolutionize Swedish literature. The year 1883 was that in which she became suddenly famous, not merely in her own country, but in Denmark, Norway, and Germany, for in this year were produced, under circumstances of stormy excitement, 'Sanna Kvinnor' ('True Women') and 'En Räddande Engel' ('An Angel of Deliverance'). Each of these was greatly successful in the long run, and 'Sanna Kvinnor' has made its way through many of the theatres of Europe. The authorized English translation is that published by Mr. H. L. Brækstad.

Early in 1884, finding that her husband was wholly out of sympathy with her intellectual aims and ethical convictions, Mrs. Edgren decided on an amicable separation, to be followed by a divorce. To facilitate this arrangement she came to England, where she resided for several months. At this time she became known to a wide circle of friends, and was not unfrequently to be seen at literary gatherings in London. She was, however, extremely modest and simple in manner, and somewhat silent; her appearance, therefore, attracted but little attention. But those who were fortunate enough to know her well appreciated her intensity of purpose, her breadth of mind, her sober and yet glowing intelligence.

Towards the close of 1884 she returned to

Stockholm, and resumed her maiden name. She brought out that winter her drama of 'Hur man gör godt' ('How Good is Done'), and a year or two later 'Kampen för Lyckan' ('The Struggle for Happiness'). In 1891 she achieved a great success with 'Familjelucky' ('Domestic Happiness'). Her smaller writings are too numerous to be mentioned here. Rather more than a year ago, Anne Charlotte Leffler married the distinguished Italian mathematician and professor, the Duke of Cajanello, and has since then resided in Naples, whence we receive the news of her melancholy and untimely death. She leaves an infant son.

Anne Charlotte Leffler's talent was the most important which has yet in any country been started by the influence of Ibsen. She accepted his dramatic theories, and carried them out with great courage, in accordance with the promptings of her own individuality. She was too striking and original a writer to be called the imitator of Ibsen, but she was distinctly his disciple. There was, however, one great difference between them—that, while the master presents himself to us as an observer of moral disease, an adept in diagnosis, and admits no direct moral purpose, Charlotte Leffler declares herself an agitator and a propagandist. She was, though no one would have guessed it from her gentle aspect, a violent supporter of almost all extreme views, an apostle of Socialism, of female emancipation, of every variety of reform. Her dramas reflect her convictions, and are, indeed, lighted up by the somewhat lurid flame of them, while she errs not unfrequently in taste and in reserve. Hers was, however, an exceedingly strenuous, curious, and agitating talent, and Sweden can ill afford to spare so interesting a figure from its living literature. E. G.

Literary Gossip.

THE Archbishop of Canterbury was recently approached by the editor of *Lloyd's News* with a view to the introduction of a short sermon into that journal. His grace received the suggestion with favour, and, after an interview and correspondence with the editor, it has been decided to commence the series in the paper issued for the last week of November. The idea is a sermon of 500 words, the first of which will be written by the Archbishop of Canterbury. The Bishops of Bath and Wells, Ely, Ripon, Southwell, Wakefield, Sodor and Man, Lichfield, Peterborough, Rochester, Worcester, Bedford, Dover, Beverley, Southwark, Derby, and Barrow-in-Furness have already sent or promised sermons, and many more occupants of the episcopal bench warmly commend the editor's proposal.

MR. WILLIAM HEINEMANN has arranged for the publication of the letters of Heinrich Heine to his sister, the Baroness Embden, and other members of his family, which are about to appear simultaneously in German and French. There are in all 122 letters, ranging from the year 1820 to 1855, the earlier portion being dated from Germany, the latter from Paris. The volume will also contain the poet's will and other documents from his papers.

MR. QUARITCH is bringing out for the India Office a volume containing a selection of letters addressed, between 1600 and 1619, to the London East-India Company by their agents at Bombay, Surat, and elsewhere in the East. These letters, many of which have never before been published, have been selected by Mr. W. Foster, of the Record Department of the India Office, and

the collection is being produced under the general supervision of Sir George Bird-wood.

MR. GEORGE MOORE has nearly finished a novel dealing with the life of betting-men in London. He is also engaged upon a volume recording his "impressions and opinions" upon artistic matters.

Notes and Queries to-day gives a sonnet hitherto unpublished of Lord Tennyson's, which is printed by permission of his son and successor.

MR. GILBERT PARKER has undertaken to write for the *Illustrated London News* a series of short stories dealing with French-Canadian life, and sails to-day (Saturday) for Quebec, partly with the intention of collecting material for the same.

THE publication of the serial story which Mr. Parker has written for the *English Illustrated* will commence immediately upon the conclusion of Mr. Bret Harte's 'Sally Dows.'

A MEMOIR of the late Dr. William Reeves, Bishop of Down and Connor, is in preparation. Any of his correspondents who have letters from him possessing personal or literary interest are requested to send them to Major Reeves, Armagh, for use in the compilation of the memoir.

MR. BLISS CARMAN, who until quite lately was one of the editors of the *New York Independent*, and has contributed verse to the *Athenæum*, is preparing a selection of his poems for publication.

As to the biography of the late Lord Sherbrooke which is being written by Mr. A. Patchett Martin, and will be published shortly by Messrs. Longman & Co., it may be well to state that this work is the only one in any way authorized by Lady Sherbrooke or any of the late Lord Sherbrooke's relatives. The copyright of all letters, whether private or published in newspapers, by Lord Sherbrooke, is the property of Lady Sherbrooke, and she has given to Mr. Martin alone permission to use them.

WHEN Dickens died the late Lord Tennyson was asked to become President of the News-vendors' Benevolent Institution. The poet declined in the following letter:—

SIR,—First let me thank the Committee and yourself for the honour you have desired to confer upon me, which, however, I feel obliged to decline accepting; for I am neither a diner out, nor a speaker after dinner, nor could without violence to the truth be called a man of business. I should but be a *roi fainéant*, which I don't wish to be—the square man in the round hole—but if you wish for the square man in the square hole I am sure Lord Houghton would be proud to serve your cause as President.

At the same time, with the permission of your Committee, I would be happy to be one of your Vice-Presidents by the side of my friend Long-fellow. I have the honour to be,

Sir,
Your Obedt. Servant,
ALFRED TENNYSON.

In consequence he was elected a vice-president.

TYPE-SETTING machines are making way. They have lately been introduced into the office of the *Belfast News Letter*, the oldest newspaper, it is said, in Ireland.

THE issue of Mr. Phil May's 'Winter Annual' has been delayed owing to a hitch

in the printing of the covers. So great was the success of Mr. May's 'Summer Annual' that 75,000 of the new venture have been printed, and henceforward two similar publications may be expected each year. The 'Winter Annual' which is about to appear depends largely for its interest upon its illustrations of life in the East-End, drawn, of course, by Mr. May. Amongst the contributors are Dr. Conan Doyle and Mr. G. A. Sala.

IN the case of *Schauer v. Field*, decided by Mr. Justice Chitty this week, the question again arose as to the meaning of the words "rights and interests" in the proviso to section 6 of the International Copyright Act, 1886. The plaintiff was the owner of the copyright in a picture produced in Germany, but before the passing of the Act of 1886 the defendants, the well-known candle manufacturers, had registered the picture (representing a girl holding a candle with her hand in front of it) as their trade mark, and had used it also for show-cards. The plaintiff admitted that under the circumstances he could not restrain the defendants from continuing to use the picture as a trade mark, and the only question was whether the defendants could be restrained from using it as a show-card, or whether its previous use in this manner had given them a right or interest protected by the proviso to section 6. Mr. Justice Chitty referred to the interpretation put on these words in the case of *Moule v. Groenings*, and held that the defendants had acquired an interest, within the meaning of the proviso, in advertising, by the means of show-cards, the picture which formed their trade mark, and that they could not, therefore, be restrained from continuing to issue such cards. The liberal interpretation given to the words "rights and interests" in *Moule v. Groenings* is, therefore, confirmed.

MESSRS. MATHEWS & LANE will issue during November a short imaginative work by Mr. Frederick Wedmore, called 'Renunciations.' It will be somewhat in the style, we understand, of a former volume of "imaginary portraits," published some years ago under the name of 'Pastorals of France.'

MR. THOMAS BAYNE writes to us that the selection of Dr. Gordon Hake's poems, on which we commented when reviewing Mr. Miles's 'The Poets and the Poetry of the Century,' was not made by him. In taking exception to it, however, in our review of the volume the other week we meant to convey, not that the selection was absolutely and intrinsically a bad one, but that it did not entirely recommend itself to our own taste. In these matters it is impossible to set up any standard of choice.

IN the current number of *Cymru*, a monthly magazine, Mr. O. M. Edwards, the editor, announces arrangements for supplying the want of suitable juvenile literature in the Welsh language. Two illustrated series of booklets, dealing with the history and literature of Wales, are being prepared by him, and will be issued forthwith. The "children's series" commences with a simple catechism on the history of Wales, and a little volume entitled 'Poets' Children,' both of which are in the press. The first number of the other series,

which is meant for young people, will be a handy little history of Wales, and will be followed by histories of Welsh heroes (each one representing an epoch) and selections from Welsh classics. Four of these books are also in the press: the 'History of Wales,' Charles Edwards's 'History of the Faith in Wales,' 'John Penry, the Welsh Puritan,' and a poem on the 'Destruction of Jerusalem,' by Eben Fardd.

IN Prof. Ant. Gindely, who died on the 24th ult., Austria has lost one of her most eminent historians. Born in 1829 at Prague, he completed his education there, and occupied successively several academical posts both in Bohemia and Moravia, until he was appointed, in 1867, Professor Ordinarius of Austrian History at the university of his native town. He first made for himself a name as an historical writer by the publication of his 'Geschichte der Böhmischen Brüder,' published in 1856-57; but his reputation is chiefly based on his works on the Thirty Years' War, which he published between 1869 and 1882. Prof. Gindely was also the author of several useful historical school-books, and the editor of the 'Monumenta Historiæ Bohemica,' in four volumes, which refer to the years 1618-23.

COL. MESSEDAGLIA BEY, late Governor-General of Darfur, has written a work concerning General Gordon, which is to be published soon.

A LITTLE incident illustrates the changes of manners going on in Turkey. A young lady of the Numunei Terakki school for girls at Adrianople, whose name is published in the Turkish newspapers as Latife Hanum, sent a beautiful piece of embroidery in gold thread to the palace at Constantinople, begging the Sultan's acceptance of it. His Majesty was much pleased, and directed that a sum should be remitted to the Hanum to buy a piano. He also sent a present to the school.

AN important educational measure has been adopted in Turkey. It is called the establishment of boarding schools for Mussulman boys, but in reality they are endowed grammar schools or gymnasia. The experiment was begun in the capital, but is now extended to the chief cities of Salonica, Monastir, Janina, Smyrna, Beirut, and Damascus by the conversion in each place of an "idadih" or preparatory school into a school for more advanced studies. Bursaries will be provided for the outlying towns. The number of the idadih schools had reached thirty-four.

MR. GLADSTONE has prepared a revised and annotated version of the lecture he delivered at Oxford, under the title of 'An Academic Sketch,' and it is being printed at the Clarendon Press.

DR. GEORG EBERS will shortly issue his autobiography under the title of 'Geschichte meines Lebens.'

THE first of the social evenings at the Authors' Club, which we spoke of some time back, is fixed for Thursday. There is some talk of the club leaving St. James's Place and moving nearer Charing Cross.

MR. E. ARNOLD gave a pleasant dinner to the trade on Monday last in order to introduce his partner, Mr. Holland, a son of Lord Knutsford. The Dean of Rochester was present, and everything went off admirably.

THE only Parliamentary Paper likely to be of interest to our readers this week is Minutes of Evidence as to the best Means of distributing the Grant in Aid of Secondary Education in Scotland (1s. 6d.).

SCIENCE

A Text-Book of Coal-Mining. By Herbert W. Hughes, A.R.S.M., F.G.S. (Griffin & Co.)

A LEARNED Oxford professor not long since defined "the practical man" as being one incapable of understanding theory. That there are still some men in charge of mines to whom the definition is applicable can scarcely be denied, but their numbers are fast dwindling, and the race bids fair to besoon absolutely extinct. The foundation of the Royal School of Mines, some forty years ago was the first blow dealt at the existence of mine-captains and "viewers" uninstructed save by personal experience, whose natural shrewdness was their only guide. The subsequent growth in the provinces of University Colleges has hastened the victory of sound scientific principles over rule of thumb in all branches of engineering, and in no department has this victory been more signal than in coal-mining, notwithstanding the almost incredible, and altogether discreditable, fact that the law as it stands puts every obstacle in the way of the acquirement of a scientific training by young men intending to become managers of coal-mines. The publication of a text-book such as the one before us is a sign of the beneficial change which has taken place. Touching as it does upon every point connected with the actual working of collieries, giving brief and clear descriptions of the various methods in use at home and abroad, with intelligible discussions of their comparative advantages and disadvantages, as practical in aim as a book can be, it yet could not have been written by a mining engineer of the old school. It displays a grasp of the great laws of Nature, together with a wide reading in many languages, which would have been impossible but for the education now enjoyed by the younger members of this great profession. Practical experience and natural shrewdness are not of less value than formerly. Backed by the teachings of science, their power is, on the contrary, increased tenfold. Mr. Hughes could evidently have held his own among the "practical men" of long ago as successfully as he does now among the better equipped colliery viewers of the new dispensation.

Though this work consists of but little over four hundred pages, the number of subjects adequately treated of in it is surprising. In spite of this a careful perusal reveals next to nothing to which serious exception can be taken. Sense of proportion, clearness of statement, power of condensation, and accuracy are the main characteristics of the author.

The only chapter we will quarrel with is the first, headed "Geology." Considering that Mr. Hughes admits that "a knowledge of geology is indispensable" in searching for coal in new districts, he must very well know that the smallest possible modicum of such knowledge cannot by any conceivable means be compressed into seven pages.

The absurdity is so obvious that the total excision of this utterly insufficient chapter is the only remedy that can be suggested. The rest of the volume calls for nothing but praise.

Chaps. ii. and iii., on "Coal" and "The Search for Coal," are very good, and the various boring systems are capitally described. Under the title of "Breaking Ground" an admirably terse account is given of hand tools, machine drills, and coal-cutting machines. In dealing with the "Transmission of Power" the second and third laws relating to compressed air are not quite correctly laid down. They should be amended so as to show that the pressure varies directly as the temperature reckoned from the absolute zero.

"Blasting" and "Explosives" next follow, several of the many proposed substitutes for the latter being briefly explained, such as the "multiple wedge," the "mechanical coal-getter," the "roller wedge," hydraulic wedges, lime cartridges, and the Belgian *bosseyeuse*. "Sinking," with its costly and often singularly ingenious contrivances, forms the subject of chap. v. The operations necessary for starting the underground roads of a colliery are next detailed, together with the methods of working the coal itself. "On the Continent," the author tells us, "a system of double timbering is used to resist high pressure." He does not, however, add that on the Continent this double timbering, curiously enough, goes by the name of *boisage anglais*.

Chap. viii. is devoted to "Haulage," a subject of the greatest interest to mining engineers. The fact that under this head the cost of feeding horses is carefully discussed may serve to give non-professional readers some idea of the multifarious points which engage the attention of a colliery manager. Examples of the actual weights and cost of food consumed by the horses at a certain colliery are given. Both seem to us rather high, and we might suggest that it should be stated whether the hay is chopped and the corn bruised or not.

The merits of each type of haulage are fairly compared by the author. He omits, however, to mention two facts which tell in favour of main and tail rope. These are, first, the ride inbye for the men, and the consequent increase of their time at the face; and, secondly, the fact that with the endless rope and chain the haulage must cease before the pit stops long enough to enable the men engaged upon the rope or chain at the inbye end to get out of the shaft, whilst with the main and tail rope trains can be hauled to the shaft up to the moment the pit stops. Matters such as these are becoming most important in view of the threatened shortening of hours.

"Winding" and "Pumping" are disposed of in the tenth and eleventh chapters. The author explains that the working parts of the pumping machinery are lined with gun-metal to prevent the action of acid water. There are other means of meeting this difficulty. At a well-known North-Country colliery the acid water was successfully neutralized with lime.

The all-important subjects of "Ventilation" and "Lighting" are admirably handled by Mr. Hughes. His account of coal dust is unusually fair. Reference

might perhaps have been made to the report on the Ryhope air receiver explosion, in which Dr. Bedson showed that it was possible to ignite coal dust by heating in a current of air at 140° C. Mr. McConnell's researches, the latest relating to this question, were, we think, published in time for recognition in this work. Mr. McConnell has brought out the interesting fact that with a coal dust yielding the higher paraffins, the coal from which this dust is produced yields only marsh gas; but after the marsh gas has been removed, then the powdered coal on further exhaustion gives the higher paraffins.

Two features which help to make this book quite the best of its kind remain to be noted: the excellence of its very numerous illustrations, and the full bibliography to be found at the end of each chapter.

GEOGRAPHICAL NOTES.

ALTHOUGH, as is mentioned in the last number of the *Proceedings* of the Royal Geographical Society, one of Mr. Conway's official reports to the Society has not come to hand, the whole of his private diaries have reached this country, and show that the party under his leadership have, during their five months' journey in the mountains behind Kashmir, not only climbed over many peaks, passes, and glaciers, but accomplished a considerable amount of hard map-making and scientific observation. Mr. Conway, by virtue of his Alpine experience, is able to describe these vast mountain tracts in terms and with the aid of comparisons that bring the character of the scenery vividly before the ordinary reader. He has much to describe—not only mountain ranges on a scale of unrivalled magnificence, but the strange features, architecture, and people of the valleys of Hunza, the last district to come under British rule in Central Asia. There can be little doubt that the materials to hand will form the foundation of a work, at once of travel and mountain adventure, of great interest and exceptional attraction. With illustrations Mr. Conway must be well supplied; he has carried his camera even to 23,000 ft., and Mr. McCormick, one of his companions, is an artist. The travellers are expected in England about Christmas, and Mr. Conway will give the first account of his travels at a meeting of the Royal Geographical Society early next year.

Mr. Stanford sends us a *New Sketch Map of the Protected Malay State of Perak, 1892*, compiled by J. S. Lefroy, Chief Surveyor of the State. The map is engraved on a scale of four miles to an inch, exhibits much detail, and shows among other features sixty-seven miles of railways, seventeen miles of which have already been opened for traffic.

The *Scottish Geographical Magazine* publishes several papers read before the recent meeting of the British Association, including Mrs. Bishop's account of a journey through Lesser Tibet, Prince Albert of Monaco's paper on the currents of the North Atlantic Ocean, and Mr. Bent's and Mr. Swan's reports on recent explorations in the Mashona country. According to Mr. Bent the Mashona are the descendants of the Mocarangas (Makalangas) of early Portuguese writers, a name signifying "Children of the Sun." Mr. Bent looks upon the ruins of Zimbabwe, which he explored in that country, as being of Phœnician origin, whilst Mr. Swan is inclined to trace them to the Himyarites of Southern Arabia. It seems, however, more probable that the builders of these remarkable ruins came from Southern India, where Phallos-worship was as widely practised as ever it was in Arabia. It is curious that the parrot, which forms so prominent a feature in the decorations of Zimbabwe, should be sacred to the Indian

god of love. Prof. E. Gelcich has contributed an elaborate paper on the discovery of North America by the Northmen.

SOCIETIES.

MICROSCOPICAL.—Oct. 19.—Mr. G. C. Karop, V.P., in the chair.—The Chairman exhibited and described Messrs. Swift's aluminium microscope, which he believed to be the first microscope made of that metal. The great point in the instrument was its extreme lightness, the whole when complete, and including the condenser and eyepiece, weighing only 2lb. 10½ oz., as against 7lb. 13 oz., the weight of a precisely similar stand made in the usual way of brass. It was perhaps not entirely correct to say that every portion was of aluminium, because there were certain mechanical difficulties met with which prevented some portions from being made of that metal—for instance, he believed that it was almost impossible to cut a fine screw upon it without the thread "stripping," and it was also found extremely difficult to solder, so that the necessary screws in the instrument were made of brass, the Campbell fine adjustment was of steel, the rack and pinion of the coarse adjustment was also not made of aluminium, and the nose-piece was of German silver.—Prof. F. Jeffrey Bell read a letter received from Mr. H. G. A. Wright, of Sydney, stating that a scale of Podura in his possession was deeply notched, and that on one side of the notch an exclamation mark had become detached, and projected from the edge. Mr. Wright also sent photomicrographs in support of his statement.—The Chairman said he could not be sure, from the cursory examination he had been able to make, that the exclamation mark referred to in the letter was to be seen.—Dr. C. E. Beever read a paper 'On Methods of staining Medullated Nerve Fibres,' illustrating the subject by photomicrographs, and by a number of preparations exhibited under microscopes in the room.—The Chairman said they were much indebted to Dr. Beever for his very interesting paper. It was, of course, a very good thing to be able to differentiate nerve fibres in the ways which had been described, but it was a pity that they could not also so differentiate them as to show from which part of the nervous system they came. If this could be done, he need hardly say it would be of great value.—Prof. Bell read a paper by Dr. H. G. Piffard 'On the Use of Monochromatic Yellow Light in Photomicrography.'—Mr. T. C. White said that he had himself tried a similar process with monochromatic light obtained by using screens and solutions, but the chief difference he found was that it very much prolonged the time necessary for exposure.—Mr. T. H. Gill said that he had used the copper light filter for the same purpose and had found that by its aid any good ordinary lens would give as good results as were otherwise obtained by using an expensive apochromatic, because it filtered off all the rays except those which were virtually strong. He had not found in the course of his work that the use of this light prolonged the exposure, that was to say, that with a magnifying power of 300 and an exposure of ten minutes he could get a good strong printing image with the isochromatic plates.—Mr. G. Masse's paper 'On *Heterosporium asperatum*, a Parasitic Fungus,' was, in the absence of the author, taken as read.

SOCIETY OF BIBLICAL ARCHEOLOGY.—Nov. 1.—Mr. P. Le Page Renouf, President, in the chair.—A paper was read by the President in continuation of his former papers on the Egyptian Book of the Dead: 'A Translation, with Commentary, of the Thirteenth Chapter.'—A paper was read by Mr. W. F. Ainsworth, 'The Two Captivities: the Habor and the Chebar.'

PHYSICAL.—Oct. 28.—Dr. J. H. Gladstone in the chair.—Mr. G. H. Wyatt was elected a Member.—The discussion on Mr. Williams's paper 'On the Relation of the Dimensions of Physical Quantities to Directions in Space' was opened by Prof. Perry reading a communication from Prof. Fitzgerald, President.—The discussion on Mr. Williams's paper was adjourned, and Dr. Young made some remarks on Mr. Sutherland's communication 'On the Laws of Molecular Force.'—A paper 'On the Determination of the Critical Density,' by Dr. Young and Mr. C. L. Thomas, and two papers, 'On the Determination of the Critical Volume' and 'On the Boiling-Points of Different Liquids at Equal Pressure,' by Dr. Young, were taken as read.

SHORTHAND.—Oct. 25.—The inaugural address was delivered by the President, Mr. T. Wright. He chiefly referred to a somewhat ambitious enterprise on which the Society has embarked in endeavouring to codify certain principles to which it is believed writers of every system of shorthand will readily assent if they can be presented in suitable formulae to the leading associations in the world. A series of

seventy-six general propositions, axioms, definitions, &c., in which contentious points have been as far as possible avoided, but which are fairly exhaustive on the main points presented in a paper by Mr. E. Guest last session, was criticized by the President, who thought that in so important a matter every line and expression would have to be considered and reconsidered many times before they were recommended for adoption in the different countries on the authority of the Society, and even before they could be submitted for adoption. Huge as the task was, the President did not despair of success, and he would support the resolution to be at that meeting brought forward by Mr. Guest for the appointment of a special committee to study the question and report to the Society.—After the discussion the special committee was elected, on the motion of Mr. E. Guest, seconded by Mr. A. B. Sparkhall. The presidents, past and present, the secretaries and the local and foreign secretaries were appointed *ex-officio* members, and Messrs. T. Hill, A. L. Lewis, G. C. Mares, P. W. Slingsby, A. B. Sparkhall, H. H. Tolcher, and the Rev. A. B. Wharton were appointed by the meeting.—A curious book, apparently a system of shorthand applied to Japanese, which nobody present could read, but of which more will probably be heard during the session, was brought to the notice of the Society by Mr. Mogford, through Mr. A. Janes. It was accompanied by a photograph of the author, Minamoto, of Japan.

MEETINGS FOR THE ENSUING WEEK.

- Mon. Royal Institution, 8.—General Monthly.
- Engineers, 7½.—'The Use of Steel Needles in driving a Tunnel at King's Cross,' Mr. W. H. Holtius, Mr. W. Anderson.
- British Architects, 8.—Opening Address by the President.
- Royal Academy, 8.—'Demonstrations,' Mr. W. Anderson.
- Aristotelian, 8.—President's Annual Address, 'Mind.'
- Civil Engineers, 8.—President's Opening Address, and Presentation of Medals, &c.
- Photographic, 8.—Address by the President: Presentation of Medals; 'Some Remarkable Properties of Silver and Gelatine,' Mr. H. Farmer.
- Anthropological Institute, 8½.—'Anthropological Uses of the Camera,' Mr. E. F. Im Thurn; 'Couvade,' Mr. H. L. Roth; 'The "Morong,"' Mr. S. E. Peal.
- Geological, 8.—'Sketch of the Geology of the Iron, Gold, and Copper Districts of Michigan,' Prof. M. E. Wadsworth; 'Gold-quartz Deposits of Pahang (Malay Peninsula),' Mr. H. M. Becher; 'The Pambula Gold Deposits,' Mr. F. D. Power.
- Huguenot, 8.—'Huguenot Commanders,' Dr. T. M. Maguire.
- Royal Academy, 8.—'Demonstrations,' Mr. W. Anderson.
- Electrical Engineers, 8.—'The Problems of Commercial Electrolysis,' Mr. J. Swinburne.
- Mathematical, 8.—President's Address; 'Some Properties of Homogeneous and Isobaric Functions,' Mr. E. B. Elliott; 'On certain General Limitations Affecting Hyper-magic Squares,' Mr. S. Roberts; 'A Group of In-triangles of a given Triangle,' Mr. R. Tucker; 'Note on Secondary Tucker Circles,' Mr. J. Griffiths.
- Physical, 5.—Continued Discussion of the Papers by Mr. Williams and Mr. Sutherland, 'Dimensions of Physical Quantities' and 'Molecular Forces.'
- Astronomical, 8.

Science Gossip.

NEWS has recently reached this country of the death of M. V. de Robillard, of Port Louis, Mauritius. M. de Robillard, who was somewhat advanced in years, has been long known to conchologists as a collector. During the last twelve years a number of very fine examples of sponges, corals, and starfishes have been forwarded by him to the British Museum, and that institution, as well as several others, will feel and regret the loss of his services.

DR. A. A. RAMBAUT has been appointed to succeed Sir R. Ball as Royal Astronomer of Ireland and Andrews Professor of Astronomy in the University of Dublin.

ANOTHER small planet has been discovered by Dr. Max Wolf at Heidelberg, and observed on the 17th and 20th ult. Should all recent announcements prove to be new discoveries, the present will raise the whole number known to 342.

THE comet (e, 1892) which was discovered by Prof. Barnard at Mount Hamilton on the 12th ult. has since been observed at several places in Europe. Dr. R. Schorr, of Hamburg, observing it on the 17th, describes it as of only the twelfth magnitude and presenting the appearance of having a granulated nucleus with several minute stellar points. He has computed its orbit, and finds that the comet will be due in perihelion about the 26th inst., at the distance from the sun of 1.67 in terms of the earth's mean distance. The distance from the earth is now about 1.43 on the same scale and increasing, so that the comet's brightness is already diminishing. It is passing through the northern part of the constellation Capricornus in an easterly direction.

FINE ARTS

FREDERICK HOLLYER'S EXHIBITION of Platinotype Reproductions of the Works of E. HURNE JONES, A.R.A., D. G. ROSSSETTI, G. F. WATTS, R.A., and other important Pictures. The DUDLEY GALLERY, Egyptian Hall, Piccadilly, W.—Open Daily, 10 to 6. Admission, 1s.

Alexander Nisbet's Heraldic Plates. By Andrew Ross and Francis J. Grant. (Edinburgh, Waterston & Sons.)

ABOUT four years ago Mr. Elliott Lockhart, of Cleghorn, discovered in his library a collection of old folio sheets of heraldic plates stitched together. As the plates could not be identified with those of any published work, they were placed in the hands of Mr. Andrew Ross, Marchmont Herald, for examination. A careful scrutiny revealed the fact that they formed a portion of 'The Armorial Bearings of the Nobility and Gentry, cut very exactly on Copper Plates.....The Nobility every one of them on a Plate by themselves, and the Gentry by Twos on one Plate,' which Alexander Nisbet proposed to publish in 1699, but which was never issued. The interest and beauty of these plates led the publishers to believe that it would be acceptable to students of heraldry and to the lovers of family lore to place them within their reach, a proposal to which Mr. Lockhart readily assented. It was considered probable that some of the original plates, or proofs from plates, were in existence, but the most diligent inquiries among all families of note in Scotland as well as among those who take an interest in heraldry and genealogy have been fruitless. Had the copper-plates been returned to the owners there can be no doubt that some would have been forthcoming, but they probably remained in possession of the herald, and in some time of stress were parted with for their metallic value.

The introduction, which covers sixty large quarto pages, contains an interesting and mostly original account of the herald's ancient lineage from the twelfth century, and of the misfortunes which his family incurred by their devoted adherence to a failing dynasty. Sir Alexander Nisbet, Knt., who succeeded to the family estates in Berwickshire about 1630, represented that county in the Parliament at Edinburgh. On the commencement of the troubles in Scotland, Sir Alexander became a devoted and constant adherent of King Charles. When the Covenanters obtained power, he was forced to leave the country, and proceeded with his sons to join the Royalist army in England, where they "served in honourable posts with valour and untainted loyalty." Three of the four eldest sons laid down their lives in the struggle, Major Alexander being killed at the siege of York in 1644, whilst two others were subsequently taken prisoners and executed. Adam Nisbet, of Edinburgh, the youngest and only surviving son of Sir Alexander, was a writer to the signet. Alexander, the eldest son of Adam's ten children, was born in 1657. He was educated at the University of Edinburgh, and for some years followed the profession of a writer. He commenced, however, the special study of heraldry at an early period in his career. When about thirty years of age, in 1687, he gave up all other employment

to follow his favourite pursuit. He was in straitened circumstances, and became an instructor in heraldry to several of the nobility and gentry, the Earl of Carnwath being one of his pupils. The leading idea of his life, towards which he patiently and persistently struggled for thirty years, was a perfect exposition of the science of heraldry. The Marchmont Herald and Carrick Pursuivant describe him as "the ablest and most scientific writer on heraldry in the English language," and the obligations under which he has laid all English-speaking followers of the science have never hitherto had any meed of justice done to them. In no dictionary of Scottish authors is he so much as named, and, though his methods have been adopted by all subsequent heraldic writers of any worth, but few of them pay him any acknowledgment.

The position of heraldic literature in this country when Nisbet set himself the task of writing a system of heraldry is clearly told in these pages. There were many interesting manuscript books of blazon in Scotland in Nisbet's days, but the only printed treatise was a work of Sir George Mackenzie, a folio of ninety-eight pages, published in 1680, and entitled 'The Science of Heraldry treated as Part of the Civil Law and Law of Nations, wherein Reasons are given for its Principles, and Etymologies for its harder Terms.' It is a simple and well-arranged handbook, but only of the nature of an outline. In England, on the contrary, there was no paucity of heraldic writing. In Moule's catalogue of works on heraldry at least twenty are named which had been published in England before 1702, including the classics of Leigh, Ferne, Dugdale, Morgan, and Guillim. Yet the best of these English writers were extravagantly pedantic or full of stilted or ludicrous conceits. Morgan, for instance, duly blazons the arms of the immediate descendants of Adam and Eve, those of Jubal being next, a tent argent; whilst Guillim gravely says that "gentlemen, having no title of dignity, blazon by metals and colours; persons ennobled by the sovereign, by precious stones; and emperors, monarchs, kings, and princes blazon by planets"! Nisbet, on the other hand, devoted himself to the straightforward, but laborious work of simply describing the origin and form of arms, those who had a right to bear them, and how the right was acquired. This necessitated genealogies of the bearers of arms, and he took for his sole authorities charters, monuments, and seals. "Arms," says he, "neither began at the Siege of Troy, nor in the days of Alexander the Great, nor under the reign of the Roman Augustus: neither do they owe their Original to the practice of the Goths and Vandals, nor to the Roman Plays, Tournaments, or Croisades, but that they were in some sort made use of long before any of these, and have borrowed something whereof they are now composed from all of them. So that by degrees they have grown insensibly up to the Beauty and Perfection we now find them in."

He was the great heraldic reformer of his day, and by the simple directness of his plans and statements, as well as by the moderation of his attacks on his predecessors, speedily converted all students. His terse yet eloquent and singularly appropriate definition of the origin of arms can never

be surpassed, and is but a sample of his style—"Arms are silent names."

In 1699 Nisbet issued ambitious proposals for the publication of a great treatise on heraldry, but his attempt to issue by subscription was a failure, and he applied for assistance to the Scottish Parliament. In support of his petition Nisbet was advised to afford some proof of his knowledge, and he accordingly published his 'Cadency' in 1702. The Parliament agreed to allow him 248*l.* 6*s.* 8*d.* for five years, recognizing the national worth of the undertaking; but the Union interfered with this financial arrangement, and he was again disappointed. The scheme for a great folio work fell through, and in 1718, when the herald was in his sixty-second year, an effort was made to publish his work by instalments in quarto, and a chapter on the "Marshalling of Arms" was given as an example of his powers. The partially completed 'System of Heraldry' was not published till 1722, after a variety of bitter disappointments. Two years later he died.

The plates of his abandoned undertaking, which form the groundwork of this volume, are singularly fine and important specimens of an heraldic artist's work of the beginning of last century. The editors say: "They are spirited examples of the art of the old line engraver, and may do much to resuscitate the proper treatment of heraldry as a decorative art, especially when applied to such purposes as book-plates, monumental brasses, and buildings and carvings in stone and wood." To this comprehensive assertion we somewhat demur, for although the plates are brimful of interest, some of the art is of an exceedingly jejune character. The human figures that are introduced are childishly bad, as, for example, the supporters of the achievement of Burden of Feddal, of Skene of that ilk, and of Fullarton of that ilk. Still more emphatically is this the case with the Earl of Carnwath, "who for his achievement bears, sable, a naked man, his arms expanded proper," the engraving whereof represents as comical a gentleman as can well be imagined. The full treatment of the mantling, in its luxuriant wealth and variety, is often, however, most excellent, and might with much advantage be studied by modern engravers and sculptors: Lockhart of Cleghorn, Dalmahoy of that ilk, and Duncan of Ardonnie are notable examples. The ermine-lined mantle adopted for the arms of the nobles, on the folds of which is shown a reduplication of the bearings, affords a striking variety of treatment. On the mantle encircling the lozenge of the widowed Countess of Winton—the sole example of a lady's achievement in this collection—the place of honour is given to the arms of her husband, which are represented on the dexter lap, whilst her own appear on the sinister.

The student of heraldry will find in these plates many a curious detail, particularly in the crests. For the Earl of Kintore, "on ane helmet befitting his quality, over a comitall crowne with a mantle gules doubled ermine, and torse of his collours, is sett for his crest, ane aged lady from the middle richly attyred, holding in her right hand a garland of laurell proper."

Henry Trotter, of Mortonhall, who had a

grant in 1676, had assigned to him as crest the highly absurd arrangement of "a groom holding a horse proper, furnished gules." The trotting horse and his attendant, standing on a long strip of turf, carefully balanced on the top of a helmet, both look irresistibly funny in the engraving. The crest of Drummond of Carlowrie affords one of the earliest illustrations of a curling-stone.

The genealogies that accompany the plates add materially to the value of this work. In their preparation the following method has been adopted. In the case of those families whose pedigrees have been repeatedly proved and are accessible, such as the Earl of Home or Haig of Bemersyde, no original work has been undertaken. Where genealogies appear in the usual works of reference, the pedigrees there given have been adopted as a basis; but the statements have been tested, and much original matter added. In other cases, such as Lockhart of Cleghorn, Nisbet of Greenholm, and many others, where no previous history was available, pedigrees have been compiled from the original public records.

Only two hundred copies of this fine work have been printed for sale, and as it is of first importance to all keenly interested in British heraldry or in Scotch genealogy, it is surely highly improbable that it will be long in the market.

THE INSTITUTE OF PAINTERS IN OIL COLOURS.

In some respects this, the tenth exhibition of the series, is better than any of its forerunners. No doubt, among more than six hundred examples, there are not twenty a critic can call pictures complete, even in the intention of their authors. Still the majority indicate more skill and thought than heretofore, and purposeless rubbish is less conspicuous than usual. And yet, when one considers that in these handsome rooms young artists find opportunities for showing what they are made of, and that not a few reputations have been won or increased here, it is a pity that the work exhibited is not better than it is, and that there is not more evidence of that scholarship and study which is likely to ensure durable results in the future. We shall gain nothing by dwelling on the bad work, and shall confine ourselves to what is noteworthy.

We begin with a new name, that of the Hon. Duff Tollemahe, whose *Le Curieux* (No. 12), a life-size half-length of a man in a white shirt looking at the works of an old gold watch, is cleverly painted, well drawn, and well put together.—Rough as it is, the sunlit sandy shore has seldom been more brightly treated than in Mr. R. W. Allan's *The Breezy Blue* (13). The group of net-driers is good, and the pearly colour is excellent.—Mr. V. Davis injures his reputation by choosing hackneyed subjects such as *The Wind's in the West* (21), a painty drawing as well as rough. His *Wintery Gloaming* (404) is fresher if not purer, and the subject is better.—The least pretentious and best study of a sunlit interior in these rooms is Mr. C. H. Wood's *Quiet Afternoon* (33), in which the artist shows he has learnt from M. Dagnan Bouveret something about the charm of silvery inner light such as Ver Meer seems to have aimed at in contradistinction to De Hooghe's interiors illuminated in gold. In No. 33 the tone is excellent, but more finish is wanted.—Miss Estcourt, like Mr. Wood, is securing a reputation by humorous life-size studies of character, such as the rather heavily handled boy's head she calls *Jack* (41), a lively and good-natured *gamin*.—Mr. Dollman has painted highwaymen so

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often that we are getting tired of such figures as the robber in *Dead or Alive* (46). It is a design of the best kind in that newspaper art which has done so much for illustrated journals and exhausted the brains of many artists meant for better things; but much less than justice has been done to it, owing to the loose and unusually slovenly mode of execution unfortunately adopted by a very clever draughtsman.

If the painters who have the right to put "R.I." after their names do not devote themselves to more serious work than they exhibit here, few will covet the distinction. For instance, Mr. John Scott's figure of *Summer* (72) compels the visitor to wonder what a young woman with a feeble expression like this has to do with summer. The ravens, hares, and squirrels who attend her add to the difficulty, and the, for the artist, unwonted paintiness and roughness of the work prove how little study he has expended on it. Nevertheless, he is a leading "R.I."—Another member of the Institute, Mr. T. H. McLachlan, has made a mistake in painting *At Sundown* (85) with so much coarse effectiveness and so many heavy pigments. While *The Golden Wedding* (80) of Mr. Joseph Clark lacks some of those fine touches his time-honoured skill leads us to expect from so sincere and modest a painter, his treatment of a somewhat threadbare subject is marked by many pretty and home-like qualities which grow upon the spectator.—That Mr. W. Weekes is a humourist, and his technique is excellent, is proved by the spirit, good colour, and warm lighting of *Dreaming the Happy Hours Away* (82).—On the other hand, finer colour and a delicate touch and a most harmonious composition distinguish the *Roses trémières* (88) of M. Fantin-Latour, and his more brilliant and purer-tinted *Roses* (106) standing in a green glass vase.—The *River Sanctuary* (94) of Mr. J. L. Pickering, though it is heavily handled and "violent" in tone and colour; the *Sheerness Regatta* (63) of Mr. G. C. Kerr, a clever, but rather painty sketch of a milk-coloured sea in sunlight; and Mr. L. Grier's *Quiet Waters* (95), a study in low tones and tints of a white calm on a smooth river, may be bracketed together as worthy of attention.—Even more noteworthy is the life-size portrait of a boy in blue with a black cat, and called *Derrick* (97), a spirited example by that brilliant, but unequal painter Mr. J. J. Shannon, another "R.I." who, it is manifest, does not send his best work here.

The President, Sir James Linton, has become a landscape painter, and his new departure is a success, despite the characteristic prevalence of blackness in his colouring. In *Approaching Michaelmas* (143), in *Sweetwater* (150), and in *The Old Story* (244), the touch is firm throughout, and sound accomplishments aid the expression of sentiment.—Another able member of the Institute is Mr. C. B. Barber, who justifies his well-established reputation for lively humour and a bright and pleasing touch in *Under a Spell* (145). The dog is capital and the girl is good, but the picture lacks the rich tints and force of Mr. W. J. McCloskey's *Strawberries* (147), a sumptuous group of fruit, and the breadth and style of Miss K. Davis's *Mrs. Gillon* (156), a sound, animated portrait head.—The *Girl Knitting* in a red cloak (162) comes from Mrs. M. Stokes, a well-trained practitioner, and is clever but rough; the forms are somewhat empty, and there is a great lack of completeness; in fact, it seems but the commencement of a good study of colour and character which pains and care might have made worthy of the artist. At present it is a rather vacant instance of the more intelligent form of Impressionism, and is more whimsical than artistic.—Quite different from No. 162 is No. 182, *A Studio Corner*, neatly and firmly painted by Mr. W. A. Breakspere in the laborious, polished manner of Van der Werff. It is too hard, and so is the next ex-

ample, a nicely drawn and brilliant interior by Mrs. F. May (a name new to us), called *A Bit of Colour* (183).

In *Unwelcome News* (184) Mr. Frank Dadd justifies the reputation he has won in these galleries, but the execution of the artist seems to grow slighter.—*A Nymph* (192) shows that Mr. C. Johnson is one of those courageous members of the Institute who attempt the nude in a late French manner, which is not quite a modern one. He deserves credit for his work, and, to test his skill, should paint the life at large.—Though vigorous, Mr. J. T. Nettleship is not at his best in *A Mighty Hunter* (200).—*Annette* (202), by Mr. W. B. Fortescue, is a nice, but rather slight head.—Another good head Mr. I. Snowman aptly calls *A Study* (226).—The *Pansies* (220) of Miss E. Haynes-Williams indicates her love of full-size blossoms.—There is much good work in Miss E. Sprague's *Regrets* (237).

We come to a group of landscapes, mostly of somewhat large dimensions: Mr. E. A. Waterlow's *Close of Day*, *Romney Marsh* (241), a sympathetically painted effect; *Norfolk Marshes* (248), by Mr. A. East, brilliant, rich, and broad; *The Piazza, Belluno* (394), by Mr. J. Aumonier, which, according to Mr. Aumonier's wont, excels in soft harmonies of colour and light, and is unusually like the Italian atmosphere; *The Piazzetta, Venice* (414), by Mr. Fulleylove, which displays rare solidity, brilliancy, purity, and pearliness; *A Sussex Hayfield* (422), another work of Mr. Aumonier, large in style, an accomplished sketch of sunlight on a meadow; *Evening on the Kennet* (431), one of Mr. A. Stokes's best studies, at once simple and poetical in sentiment; Mr. A. East's charming *Clairwin Valley* (513), which excels any former work of his in depicting an expanse of pure atmosphere and the effect of vaporous sunlight on autumnal foliage and herbage; the white calm of Mr. F. McG. Knowles, called *St. Levan Church* (490), which is broad and simple, and possesses the dignity of nature; Mr. F. G. Cotman's *Birth of a Storm* (549), which is instinct with emotion, strong and bright; Mr. E. Parton's beautiful *Autumn Morning* (558), a broad, pure, and loyal picture; and Mr. H. Hine's romance of the sea which he calls *A Tramp, off Ushant* (580). Here a steamer—one of those which go from port to port with chance cargoes—is reeling in the tremendous seas through which she ploughs her way. The vigour and dashing treatment of the artist are conspicuous in the vessel, huge blue billows, and lowering clouds.

Returning to the figure pictures, we may mention *The Sponging House* (253) of Mr. E. Bundy. It deserves praise for the passionate and sympathetic design of the ruined man and his sorrowing wife in the foreground and the animation of the rascally group near the fire. It is the painter's best picture and one of the best here.—Next hangs Mr. T. B. Kennington's *Quizzing* (262), spirited and original faces of playful girls.—This is followed by Mr. J. R. Reid's decidedly clever, but somewhat common and trivial piece of genre, *Toby's Rehearsal* (263). The colour is chalky; but the dog is very good indeed.—*Pour passer le Temps* (298) proves that Mr. G. Jolley is an artist in feeling for colour: a good and harmonious picture of a girl in pale purple in sunlight.—Mr. L. Thomson's *Bathers* (318) seems out of keeping amid so many gay and brilliant pieces of modern art; it is old-masterlike in its strong tones, tints, and a dark twilight effect on naked figures near water and amid trees.—The calm of *The Gulf of Spezia by Starlight* (339), a true nocturne in blue (silvery moonlight, and starlike lights of ships at anchor), marks a new departure by Mr. E. H. Fahey, and is most natural.—A street fight of gamins and ragamuffins in front of "Punch" performing in a street, which Mr. W. H. Pike calls *A Battle* (333), abounds in spirit and brutal

human vigour, but it is a little dirty and coarse in execution.—Mr. Haynes-Williams does not surpass his former achievements in *St. Valentine's Day* (363), one of his fair damsels, in an Empire costume of white satin, placing a letter in a bouquet. Yet it is extremely pretty, animated, and dexterous, and distinct in its clear touches and tendencies to paintiness.

We need only name the remaining works to which we have to call attention. They are Mr. A. Stokes's fresh and artistic landscape, *Through Green Reeds* (375); Mr. F. W. W. Topham's capital portrait of *Grace* (376), an expressive head in profile; Mr. James Clark's *Early to Bed* (402), a firelit interior by twilight, most glowing and telling (the figures are well designed and deftly painted); Mr. J. A. Lomax's company of gamblers (432), one of the most successful pieces of genre here; M. Fantin-Latour's *Épillets d'Inde* (434), a learned exercise in brown and golden orange; Mr. A. Harrison's *A Street, Brittany* (438), a capital study of grey buildings in warm sunlight; and Mr. E. Hayes's *Sunset, Katwyke Beach* (473), one of his best drawings.—Mr. A. C. Taylor's hackneyed motives in *Confirmation Day* (532) must not affect our enjoyment of his craftsmanship.—We can warmly praise the soundness and carefulness of Mr. W. M. Egley's *Clarissa Harlowe writing her last Will* (579); the spirit of Mr. W. Rainey's *Tale of the Sea* (584), an old salt spinning a yarn to two very pretty children; Mr. Clegg Wilkinson's splendidly coloured and finely lighted view of a marsh, called *Near the Coast* (596); Mr. W. F. Calderon's "*Parting is such sweet sorrow*" (607), a capital example of all good qualities; and, last, the brilliant, full-toned, potent, and original deck scene in burning sunlight at sea, by Mr. F. Brangwyn, named *Slave Traders* (631).

PORTRAITS OF WYCLIF.

I AM obliged to Mr. Hartshorne for his references as to the origin of the Lutterworth portrait.

The communication which you printed on September 17th dwelt on the extreme difficulty of believing that any one of our so-called pictures of Wyclif was, even indirectly, drawn from the life. The same remark would apply in principle to the "relics" at Lutterworth. To deny the genuineness of either in more emphatic terms might seem to imply that some Wyclif student worthy of attention had claimed them as genuine, and had put forward serious arguments to prove his case.

If anybody chooses, as a pious belief or as an irresponsible caprice, to think that he sees the real John Wyclif in one or all of the existing portraits, of course it is lawful for more enlightened persons to show that the belief cannot be justified. Bearing in mind that no scholar has argumentatively affirmed that the Wyclif portraits are genuine, it is interesting to note by what kind of arguments the direct negative of this proposition can be supported. At a meeting of the Royal Archeological Institute in 1879, we are told, "it was clearly shown that Wyclif could never have worn [such] a beard as an ecclesiastic of the time in which he lived." The point is a small one. The justification of Wyclif's beard will not prove the genuineness of the portraits; but on the other hand it is certain that the presence of this beard does not prove that Bale's portrait, for instance, could not be a true copy of a faithful drawing in Wyclif's lifetime.

Here, if space permitted, should follow a dissertation on Wyclif's beard—which is perhaps a matter of somewhat doubtful concern to the readers of the *Athenæum*. It is enough to say that not only ecclesiastics, but even monks and friars, could (as opposed to "could never") have worn a beard in the fourteenth century. Shaving was the rule, and especially the monastic rule, within the Latin rite, just as beards were the rule within the Greek rite;

but we have chapter and verse to show that it was not a rule without exceptions. Apart from the general consideration as to what might have been possible or impossible for an English ecclesiastic in that century, a single fact may be mentioned which undoubtedly suggests that Wyclif not only could, but was very likely to, have worn a beard. William of Malmesbury says that the spies sent by Harold to the camp of William the Bastard reported, amongst other things, that the Norman priests were all clean shaven—which implies that the English priests let the hair grow on their faces. The spies were struck by the contrast; and we know independently that every distinction between the ante-Norman and the post-Norman Church in England was jealously treasured up until the ecclesiastical reformers in the fourteenth century took courage to repudiate whatsoever smacked of Roman importation during the second millennium.

This consideration alone almost suffices to rescue Wyclif's beard from the archaeological tonsor, without any reference to his written words, or to the above-mentioned chapter and verse on ecclesiastical beards in general.

L. SERGEANT.

Fine-Art Gossip.

AMONG the attractions of the coming Winter Exhibition of the Royal Academy will be, we understand, a certain number of representative drawings in colours by Edward Calvert, the friend of Samuel Palmer, John Linnell, and others of Blake's set.

MR. WALTER CRANE has just finished one of the large canvases on which he undertook to represent certain heroic actions of English men and women for panels on the wall of Red Cross Hall, Red Cross Street. A picture already known to our readers depicted Alice Ayres handing over to the firemen her mistress's child, whom she had rescued from apparently certain death. The new work comprises the nearly life-size figures of a party of platelayers who, having removed, or loosened, one of the rails, noticed a train approaching unwarned and at full speed, and rushed forward at the peril of their lives to replace the rail; two of them were killed.

THE collection of the late Mr. C. Robertson's drawings in the Fine-Art Society's gallery, to which we referred last week, will increase his reputation. Among the 130 of them which are now on view, the best seem to be 'The Edge of the North Sea' (No. 20), a sunny study of a beach, with a huge rusted anchor and some figures in the foreground; 'The Standard-Bearer' (24), which is very spirited and crisply touched; the luminous painting (27) of an estuary with groups of 'Sea Holly' growing on the dunes; the numerous, richly clad, and well-designed groups of Orientals in the bright and picturesque 'Serpent Charmer, Damascus' (32), a first-rate specimen which we have seen before; the neatly painted 'Beach, Charmouth' (33); 'Walberswick Harbour' (38); 'Richmond Terrace' (50); and 'The "Place of the Skull," Jerusalem' (72). Neatness, brightness, gay and harmonious colouring, a very crisp touch, resembling that of Mr. Birket Foster, and most attractive deftness and precision characterize these drawings.

A MEETING was held on October 19th at Hull to form an archaeological association for the East Riding. In the unavoidable absence of the Mayor, the Rev. Dr. Cox, F.S.A., was voted to the chair. The chairman said that there was urgent need for such a society. If properly constituted it would awaken local interest, and whilst encouraging necessary reparation might do much to prevent vandalism with regard to ancient buildings, both ecclesiastical and domestic. There was not the slightest wish to act in the least spirit of hostility to, or of

rivalry with, the old Yorkshire Archaeological and Topographical Association, of which he was a member, and he quite hoped that through the new association many members would be added to the Yorkshire Record Society, the invaluable handmaid of the old society. But it was useless for one body, chiefly connected with the West Riding, to attempt to cover the area of so vast a shire with any degree of success. The East Riding was singularly rich in archaeological details of every variety, and had an area and a population far larger than many counties that boasted of antiquarian societies of their own. The Bishop of Beverley moved, and Mr. Alderman Park seconded, the formation of such a society, and other resolutions were moved and supported. Dr. Cox was elected first President, and among the vice-presidents were the Archbishop of York, the Bishops of Beverley and Hull, Lord Herries, Lord Hotham, and the mayors of Hull, Beverley, and Hedon. A strong council was also nominated, including Mr. F. Haverfield, Mr. R. C. Hope, F.S.A., Rev. E. M. Cole, and Rev. M. C. F. Morris. Mr. T. Tindall Wildridge was appointed honorary secretary.

In future, under the title of 'Archæological Reports,' an annual account of work done by the Egypt Exploration Fund will be issued to the subscribers in the spring or summer at the end of each working season. The number for the coming year will contain reports by Prof. Naville and Mr. Newberry of the results of their respective expeditions; and in order to keep the members of the society informed of the progress of discovery, summaries of archaeological intelligence and of publications relating to Egyptology will be added, as well as more extended notices of selected works. Books for review, on any subject connected with Egypt, can be sent to the editor, Mr. F. Ll. Griffith, F.S.A., at No. 37, Great Russell Street, London, W.C.

MANY who have had to do with him in that capacity will regret to learn that Mr. Marcus B. Huish's editorship of the *Art Journal*, which has lasted fourteen years, has been voluntarily terminated.

WE are requested to state that the cause of the late Mr. Hopkins's ceasing for some years to contribute to the Academy was not discontent with the manner in which the hanging committees had dealt with his pictures, but his own conviction that the works he was then engaged on, being portraits of racehorses, were not interesting to the public.

ALTHOUGH the market is already deluged with works on clan tartans, Mr. George P. Johnston, of Edinburgh, is about to publish another, by Mr. A. Stewart. The new publication will differ from its predecessors in one important point. Dissatisfied with the results as yet attained by chromo-lithography, Mr. Stewart will illustrate his book by examples woven to scale in silk. Also the illustrations will in each case be taken from the earliest examples extant.

MR. BLAIR writes from South Shields:—

"Just a line in reply to the letter of Precentor Venables in your issue of the 15th of October, that amphora handles bearing the name of Junius Melissus have been found at Chesters (Cilurnum) and South Shields."

THE death is announced of M. Alfred Didier, a French painter, much esteemed for his military pictures.—Likewise dead is the able French landscapist M. C. Gosselin, who was born at Paris in 1834, became a pupil of Gleyre, began to contribute to the Salon in 1863, and, with few intervals, continued to do so till lately. His excellent, firm, and accomplished art was exercised on subjects from the Jura, the Ile Adam, the Parc de Versailles, the Château d'Arques, and the Grand Berneval. In 1882 he was appointed Conservateur du Musée de Versailles, a post he filled with universal satisfaction. He obtained medals in 1865, 1870, and 1874, and in 1878 the Legion of Honour.—The

painter and lithographer M. Jules David, a pupil of Duval le Camus, is dead.—M. Alfred Michiels, librarian of the École des Beaux-Arts at Paris, and author of a history of Flemish painting, also died last week.

THE third volume of the late M. Lavoix's sumptuous and scholarly catalogue of the Oriental coins in the Bibliothèque Nationale may be expected in December. It deals with the dynasties of Egypt and Syria. M. Lavoix was buried last week.

MUSIC

THE WEEK.

CRYSTAL PALACE.—Saturday Concerts.
ST. JAMES'S HALL.—M. de Pachmann's Chopin Recital.
COVENT GARDEN.—'Don Giovanni,' 'Tristan und Isolde.'

By bringing forward Mr. Frederic Cliffe's new Symphony in E minor thus early in the season, and arranging an extra rehearsal with the full Saturday orchestra at his own expense, Mr. Manns has once more proved his chivalrous devotion to the cause of English music. Happily in this instance his zeal has been expended on a worthy object, for a second hearing is quite sufficient to remove any feeling of hesitation in placing the symphony among the most noteworthy of those produced by contemporary composers. The favourable impression produced on Saturday at the Crystal Palace was partly due to the judicious curtailment of the second and fourth movements, the improvement in the coda of the *finale* being most marked. If we were asked to name the prevailing characteristics of Mr. Cliffe's music, the answer would be sentiment and passion. In this he occupies a position distinct from other prominent symphonic composers of the present day, Brahms being noteworthy in the main for the lofty intellectuality of his writing, Dvorák for piquant national colouring, and Hubert Parry for general breadth and English directness of utterance. Mr. Cliffe's symphonies, on the other hand, are remarkable for intense feeling, whether the subject be the beauties of nature or the joy of human love. And to this it may be added that if a passage or an episode here or there may seem ill judged, his efforts in the highest department of musical art are, on the whole, such as to inspire confidence that he will one day be recognized as a master. As a matter of course, considering the unusual pains taken with the work, Saturday's performance was extremely fine, the slips being few and far between, in spite of the difficulties of the music. The only other features of the programme worthy of note were Mlle. Szumowska's rendering of Weber's Concertstück—in which, by the way, Liszt's questionable alterations were adopted, although it was not so stated in the programme—and Mr. Andrew Black's fine and expressive singing in "Wotan's Abschied" from 'Die Walküre.' Two movements from the ballet music in Moskowski's new and successful opera 'Boabdil, der letzte Maurenkönig,' were introduced, but they were relegated to the end of the programme, and comment upon them is, therefore, impossible.

That M. de Pachmann remains one of the finest exponents of Chopin's music was fully proved at his recital on Tuesday afternoon. He has now, however, a formidable rival in M. Paderewski, who is more versatile, the Russian pianist's technique being

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frequently at fault in works needing a vigorous style of execution, and moreover his unfortunate mannerisms have, if anything, increased, being, indeed, little short of ridiculous at times. Apart from this and a few unwarrantable liberties with the text, there was much to praise in his performance of a well-chosen programme, which included the Sonata in B minor, Op. 58; the Ballade in A flat; the Impromptu in F sharp; the Scherzo in C sharp minor; the rarely played Rondo in E flat, Op. 16; and selections from the nocturnes, mazurkas, waltzes, and études.

The first performance this season of 'Don Giovanni' at Covent Garden on Saturday last was, on the whole, commendable, that is to say, distinguished by a general level of efficiency among the exponents of the leading parts. Signor Padilla brings his ripe experience to bear upon his embodiment of the leading character, the inartistic introduction of high notes in the serenade alone marring the success of his performance. Approval in general terms may be given to Signor Caracciolo as Leporello, Signor Guetary as Don Ottavio, Signor Abramoff as Il Commendatore, and Mlle. Dotti as Donna Anna. Mlle. Bauermeister and Mlle. Zelig de Lussan deserve special mention, the former for replacing Mlle. Sofia Ravogli at very brief notice, and the latter for her charming impersonation of Zerlina, which has not been equalled since the youthful days of Madame Patti. The chorus was excellent, and the accompaniments were played with refinement under the direction of Signor Bevignani.

The performance of Wagner's 'Tristan und Isolde' on Tuesday must be regarded in the light of an experiment. At this season of the year the engagement of a homogeneous well-drilled German company is scarcely practicable; and it says much for Sir Augustus Harris's spirit of enterprise that he was able to bring together a sufficient number of German-speaking artists to give a tolerably creditable rendering of this greatest and most difficult of Wagner's music dramas. Miss Pauline Cramer is experienced in this class of work, both on the stage and in the concert-room, and although far from an ideal Isolde, either in voice or appearance, her impersonation was marked by praiseworthy conscientiousness and general intelligence. An unfortunate lapse of memory marred the effect of the "Death Song," but, speaking generally, Miss Cramer's embodiment should receive the commendation due to worthy endeavour. Herr Oberlaender, who appeared at Covent Garden in 1884, remains an intelligent actor and a very indifferent vocalist. He was fairly acceptable in the declamatory music, but far from agreeable in *cantabile* passages, of which there are not a few in Wagner's score. On the other hand, Miss Esther Palliser's embodiment of Brangäne was a welcome surprise, for the young artist had evidently studied the part with the utmost care, and her acting was as appropriate and pleasing as her vocalization was pure and effective. The impersonation was from first to last delightful in every sense. Mr. David Bispham as Kurwenal also made a favourable impression, though he betrayed a tendency to overact the part; and Signor

Abramoff was efficient as King Mark. The male chorus was furnished by the London German Turnverein, and, like the increased orchestra, would have done better with further rehearsal. It taxed all Mr. Carl Armbruster's ability to prevent disaster several times in the course of the performance, and with a less capable conductor a catastrophe could scarcely have been avoided.

Musical Gossip.

THE first of the Saturday Popular Concerts attracted an enormous audience, thanks probably to Brahms's Vocal Quartets and Gipsy Songs, Op. 112, which, as before, received perfect justice from Mr. and Mrs. Henschel, Madame Fassett, and Mr. Shakespeare. The instrumental concerted works in the programme were Beethoven's Quartet in F minor, Op. 95, and the same composer's Sonata in G for piano-forte and violin, Op. 30, No. 3. Señor Arbos was scarcely happy in Bach's Chaconne, but Mr. Leonard Borwick, the pianist of the afternoon, merits unreserved commendation for his thoughtful and technically excellent rendering of Schumann's Sonata in G minor, Op. 22.

MONDAY'S performance was noteworthy for the first appearance of Mlle. Wietrowetz as leading violinist. This gifted pupil of Herr Joachim, whose fine playing at other concerts last season attracted considerable attention, proved her fitness for her new position in Mendelssohn's Quartet in E flat, Op. 12, and Rubinstein's Trio in B flat, Op. 52, her execution being remarkable for breadth and vigour. As a solo she gave the Romance from Herr Joachim's Hungarian Concerto with equal success. Praise absolutely unqualified must also be given to Mlle. Szumowska, whose technique and style were alike faultless in Bach's Prelude and Fugue in B flat, No. 21 of 'Das Wohltemperirte Clavier,' and Beethoven's Sonata in E, Op. 109. Brahms's Quartets, Op. 112, were repeated with the same executants as on Saturday.

THE only addition to Signor Lago's repertory at the Olympic since our last notice has been Wallace's threadbare 'Maritana,' which was very creditably performed last Saturday, the most successful impersonations being those of Madame Fanny Moody, Miss Lily Moody, Mr. Eugene Oudin, and Mr. Charles Manners.

SIR JOSEPH BARNEY's remarks last week concerning the condition of music in this country have aroused much attention and some controversy. He is in the main correct as to the lamentable want of complete orchestras in our leading provincial towns, but to Manchester, as an exception, might be added Birmingham and Bristol, though unfortunately in these places high-class performances are not given weekly, as in the centre of the cotton industry.

WE are authorized to contradict the statement that Madame Patti is in negotiation with Signor Lago for some special representations at the Olympic Theatre, as she has no intention of appearing in opera in London at present. Overtures have, however, been made to Madame Patti to take the part of Juliet in the approaching hundredth performance of Gounod's opera in Paris; but nothing definite has yet been settled.

THE Royal Choral Society commenced its season at the Albert Hall on Wednesday with Dvorák's Requiem, the performance of which was, if possible, finer than that of last year. The choir fully sustained its reputation, singing throughout with perfect precision and the utmost refinement, Sir Joseph Barney having evidently taken special pains with some numbers in which very trying chromatic progressions occur. Madame Albani, Miss Hilda Wilson, Mr. Lloyd, and Mr. Watkin Mills were, of course, excellent as the principal vocalists.

MR. HAROLD BAUER, whose excellent violin playing has frequently won due recognition, gave a pianoforte recital at Erard's rooms on Wednesday afternoon. His programme included Beethoven's Sonata in A, Op. 101; Liszt's Legende 'St. François marchant sur les Flots'; Tausig's arrangement of Bach's Organ Toccata and Fugue in D minor, for which pianists evince a curious fondness, and smaller items. Mr. Bauer's manner was somewhat lacking in expressiveness, but his manipulation was excellent.

PERFORMANCES have been unusually numerous for the time of year, and formal record can only be given of Mr. F. Griffith's flute recital at the Steinway Hall on Thursday last week, Mr. Robert Kennedy's concert of Scottish music at the Princes' Hall on Monday, and the concert of the Musical Guild at the Kensington Town Hall on Tuesday.

WE have already drawn attention to the newly formed Middlesex and London Counties Choral Union, and are now in receipt of the prospectus for the first series of oratorio concerts. Handel's 'Joshua' will be performed for the first time at St. James's Hall on December 15th; and in the spring of the new year Dr. Hubert Parry's 'Job,' Beethoven's 'Mount of Olives,' and Gounod's 'Faust' (in concert-room guise), at the new Victoria Hall, Langham Place. The orchestra and chorus will, it is said, number 500, and the conductor will be Mr. James Shaw, under whose direction excellent oratorio performances were given last season at St. James's Hall.

PERFORMANCES NEXT WEEK.

MON.	Covent Garden Royal Opera, 7.30.
	— Olympic Royal Opera, 8.
	— Popular Concert, 3, St. James's Hall.
TUES.	Covent Garden Royal Opera, 7.30.
	— Royal College of Music Orchestral Concert, 7.30, Alexandra House.
	— Olympic Royal Opera, 8.
	— Mrs. Katherine Fisk's Concert, 8, St. James's Hall.
WED.	Covent Garden Royal Opera, 7.30.
	— Olympic Royal Opera, 8.
THURS.	Covent Garden Royal Opera, 7.30.
	— Olympic Royal Opera, 8.
	— Miss Florence Smart's Concert, 8, Steinway Hall.
	— Messrs. Harrison's Futti Concert, 8, Albert Hall.
	— Miss Ethel Bauer, Mr. Harold Bauer, and Mr. Herbert Walen's Concert, 8.15, Hampstead Conservatoire.
FRI.	Covent Garden Royal Opera, 7.30.
	— Olympic Royal Opera, 8.
	— Hampstead Popular Concert, 8, Vestry Hall, Haverstock Hill.
	— M. Gorski's Orchestral Concert, 8, St. James's Hall.
SAT.	Covent Garden Royal Opera, 2 and 7.30.
	— Olympic Royal Opera, 2 and 8.
	— Crystal Palace Concert, 3.
	— Popular Concert, 3, St. James's Hall.

DRAMA

Dramatic Gossip.

THE St. James's programme has been strengthened by the addition of Mr. W. L. Courtney's one-act drama of 'Kit Marlowe,' which, with Mr. Arthur Bourchier as the hero, was given on the occasion of the performance in aid of the Marlowe Memorial scheme. Seen and grasped by Mr. Alexander, who has played it frequently in the country, and assigned it an adequate setting, it now returns to London. Mr. Alexander as the hero is very earnest and reckless, and wears well his foreknowledge of imminent calamity. Miss Edith Chester is, perhaps, not wholly wrong in presenting the heroine as languid and submissive, accepting her lover's caresses as though powerless to resist them, and his death with resignation rather than with despair. She is, at least, a creature bright enough to justify a poet's whim, if not to inspire a poet's passion. Other parts are fairly played, the *mise en scène* being generally effective.

UPON its revival at the St. James's, 'Lady Windermere's Fan' seems more extravagant, if less saucy, than before. Mr. Wilde's impertinences shock and amuse less, and what is genuinely comic in his method is now apparent. The difficulties in the way of accepting his story are augmented, but may be surmounted. No one ever behaved quite so unreasonably as Lord Windermere, unless it were Mrs. Erlynne. In-

dulgence, however, in matters of this kind is never refused when, as in this case, the result is hilarious. Miss Winifred Emery now lends Lady Windermere all possible refinement and distinction, adding greatly to the effect of the play in so doing; and the general interpretation by Mr. Alexander's capital company is excellent.

'WITHERED LEAVES,' a comedietta by Mr. F. W. Broughton, first seen some dozen years ago, has been revived at Terry's Theatre, with some of our younger actors in the cast, and has been received with favour.

A VERSION of 'Uncle Tom's Cabin,' given on Saturday at the Princess's Theatre, treats Mrs. Beecher Stowe's famous book from a standpoint spectacular, melodramatic, operatic, and in part burlesque. Plantation melodies were sung in and out of season, there was a somewhat superfluous amount of revolver firing, and a good many pantomime tricks. Many actors—some of them capable, others of no special ability—took part in the performance.

MISS FORTESCUE has played during the week at the Grand Theatre as Clarice in Mr. Gilbert's 'Comedy and Tragedy' and as Mrs. Doring in Mr. Haddon Chambers's 'The Honourable Herbert.' In both pieces she was supported by Mr. Vanderfelt and Mr. Fuller Mellish.

MADAME BERNHARDT has telegraphed her regret at her inability to take part in the testimonial performance to Mr. Mayer at the Alhambra on the 12th inst. Madame Chaumont has, however, promised 'Toto chez Tata,' a song, and a monologue.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.—J. H.—G. W. B.—W. W. M.—W. R.—G. O.—R. B.—E. S. H.—E. D.—E. G. B.—F. F. S.—R. M. K.—received.
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